KEEP STRONG

- The Memory of Fred Hampton
- Steelworkers Seek to Control Their Union

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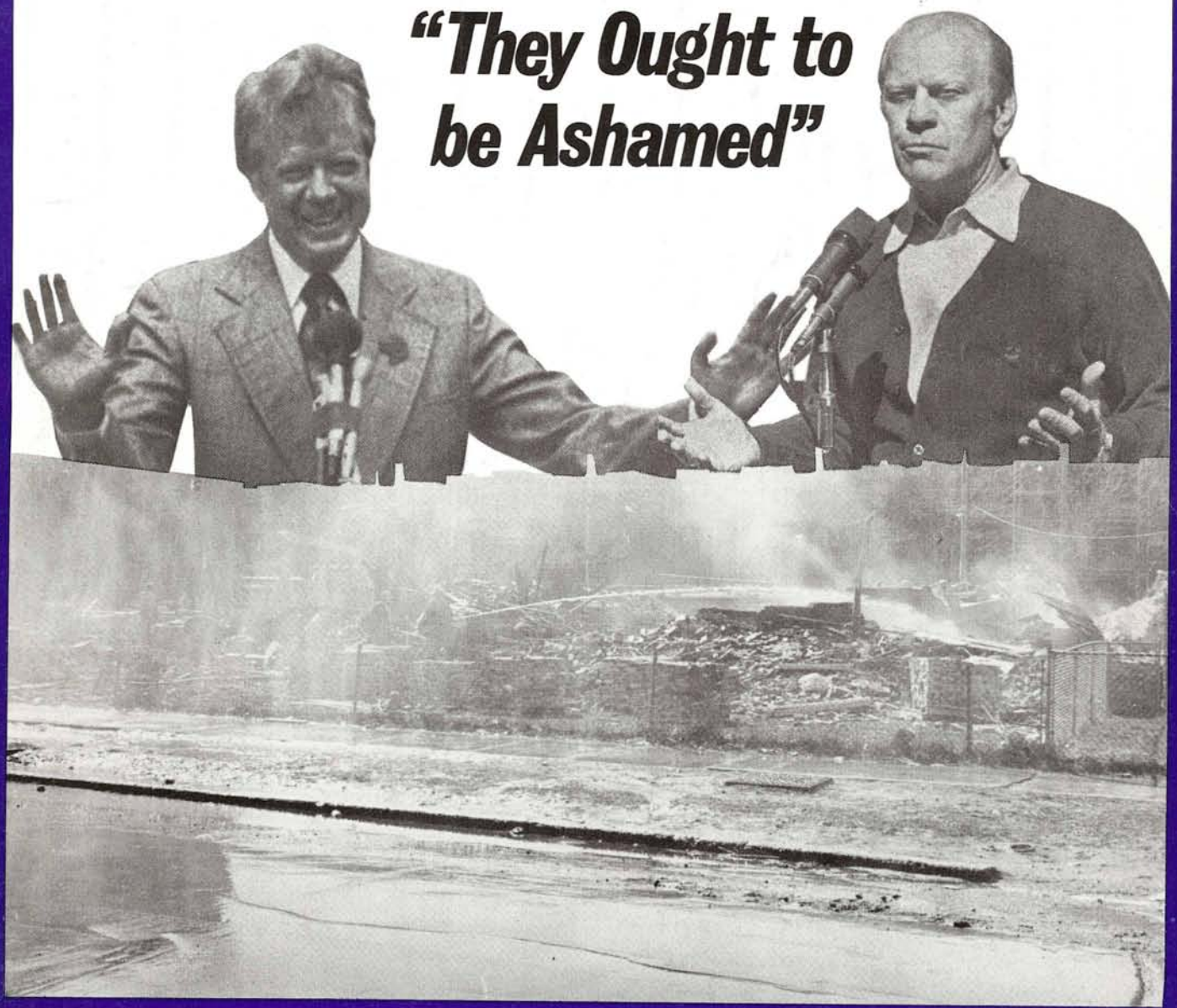
"They Ought to be Ashamed"



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In *This Issue*

1. While Carter and Ford debate, the people conclude that a change will only come when we make it. See Editorial, page 2 and "On the Street," page 4.

2. The desperate struggle for black lung disease compensation continues to grow, with no help from Congress. See page 26.

3. ISC opens in Milwaukee with highly successful Survival Rally. See page 22.

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EDITORIAL

„ They Ought to be Ashamed"

Over 100 million television viewers were subjected to 90 minutes of double-talk last month, held up as a "miracle of democracy:' "Only in America could such a debate happen," it was said. Well, maybe so.

Only in a country like this, with so much wealth and so many without it, could men who worked 30 years in the coal mines die penniless and unable to afford medical care for the black lung disease gotten in the mines.

Only in a country like this could a prisoner be sentenced to 22 years in isolation to cover up the state's assassination of a brilliant young author.

Only in a country like this could families sit in front of a T.V. set watching a presidential debate, without enough food to feed their children dinner, wondering when their decaying building will be condemned.

The two well-fed gentlemen running for President, twisting facts and figures like pretzels salted with "Betty and I believe in you," and "You can depend on it," ought to have been ashamed. Those debates were like a magician's illusion, attempting to persuade us that "someone in a high position is seriously attacking 'our problems.' "

How were the debates received? According to the latest polls, only three out of every ten voters will even vote in the next presidential election. Assuming a landslide victory for either candidate, the leading authority of this nation will take power with the support of possibly two out of every ten Americans who still bother to register to vote.

Meanwhile, as Ford and Carter fiddled on the screen, people in oppressed communities from Oakland, California to Zimbabwe, from Chicago to Puerto Rico, from Kentucky to Milwaukee continued the serious struggle to unite, to survive together, and to achieve power. Local elections in cities and states and in large unions are being used to attain people's power in different communities. Waves of people's organizations, built step by step on concrete gains meeting real needs, are washing away the vicious, suffocating daydream of T.V. democracy, so that there will come a day when 100 million people will simply turn off the gentlemen, like Jimmy and Jerry, and won't that be a relief!D

COMMENT

Butz Resigns

From the Black Panther Intercommunal News Service

Culminating a media created public furor which had all the trappings of a staged debate between the hypocrites and the philistines, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz resigned from office last Monday the result of an obscene racial slur he made against Black people.

As the strange controversy unfolded, with publicity-minded democrats and republicans taking turns in front of the cameras; 1) calling for Butz's resignation and; 2) demanding that President Ford fire his close friend, a Black woman interviewed on San Francisco's KPIX-TV summed up community sentiment this way: "If all those politicians who said racist things quit or were fired, there wouldn't be no government left."

The Butz remark which led to his political downfall in the Ford administration first appeared a month ago in a Rolling Stone magazine article on the Republican Convention written by convicted watergate informant, John Dean. Going against his habit of "telling all," Dean did not include the name of the cabinet official who made the derogatory remark. However, New Times magazine attributed the statement to Butz in its current issue. The Rolling Stone article contains this passage:

> "Pat Boone posed a question: 'John (Dean) and I were JUSt olscussing the appeal of the Republican Party. It seemed to me that the party of Abraham Lincoln could and should attract more Black people; why can't that be done?' "This was a fair question for the secretary [Butz] who was also a very capable r0litiCian.
>
> "'I'll tel you why you can't attract coloreds,' the secretary proclaimed as his mischievious smile returned. '3ecause coloreds only want three things. You know what they want?' he asked Pat. 'I'll tell you what coloreds want; it's three things: first, a tight pussy; second, loose shoes; and third, a warm place to shit. That's all.' "

Confronted about his comment, Butz replied that he was merely "repeating an old political joke." President Ford called his secretary in for a "redcarpet" severe reprimand but refused to fire him. Campaigning in Pittsburg, aspiring democratic presidential nominee Jimmy Carter had the audacity to "pounce" on the issue.

Seemingly forgetting his own racist slur - protecting the "ethnic purity" of white neighborhoods from "alien invasionl Black intrusion" uttered during the democratic primaries - Carter nonsensically said that Butz's remark "indicates how this administration feels about consumers, farmers and people who are dependent on government for a better way of life." Senator Robert Dole, Ford's running mate, countered by saying that although Butz's statement was "stupid" it was no dumber than things Carter had said.

Accepting the teary eyed secretary's resignation, President Ford told the media, "Earl Butz has been and still remains a close personal friend and a man who loves his country and all that it represents." O

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"DO YOU THINK IT'S WORTHWHILE VOTING FOR PRESIDENT THIS YEAR?"

Deanna Hendrickson
N. Hermitage

"No. I don't think there's too much anyone can do anymore unless the people get together."

Dale Bowers
W. Catalpa

"Well, I would say 'no' because I think they are both about the same. The system doesn't change. I mean to vote for Carter or Ford would be the same thing. I would rather not vote."

Sue Garcia
N. Clarendon

"I don't think so. They don't do nothing."

Bob Shapiro
W. Gunnison

"It's not really much of an election. It's not worthwhile because there's no choice. It's the way it usually is."

Debbie Garcia
N. Kenmore

"I don't think so because they are all rip-offs anyway."

M. Parks
N. Kenmore

"I didn't register. 1don't think it's worthwhile. It wouldn't make any difference one way or the other."

Felicia DeeMer
N. Sunnyside

"I don't think so because they're so dishonest. 1 don't really think it's worth it. Neither of them interest me too much:'

Mary Taylor
N. Magnolia

"No.1 don't think it's worthwhile voting for President. If W.C. Fields was alive, he would have been President:'

Dari Dubinsky
W. Columbia

"Honestly? 1don't think it's ever been worthwhile to vote for President. Nothing ever changes:'

Betty Aikens
W. Lakeside

"Not really. I don't think any of them are any good."

Mont Vanover
N. Racine

"Seems like everybody we get - well, we could use a change. 1doubt if we'll get a change:'

WELFARE RIGHTS

25.9 Million Now "Living In *Poverty"*

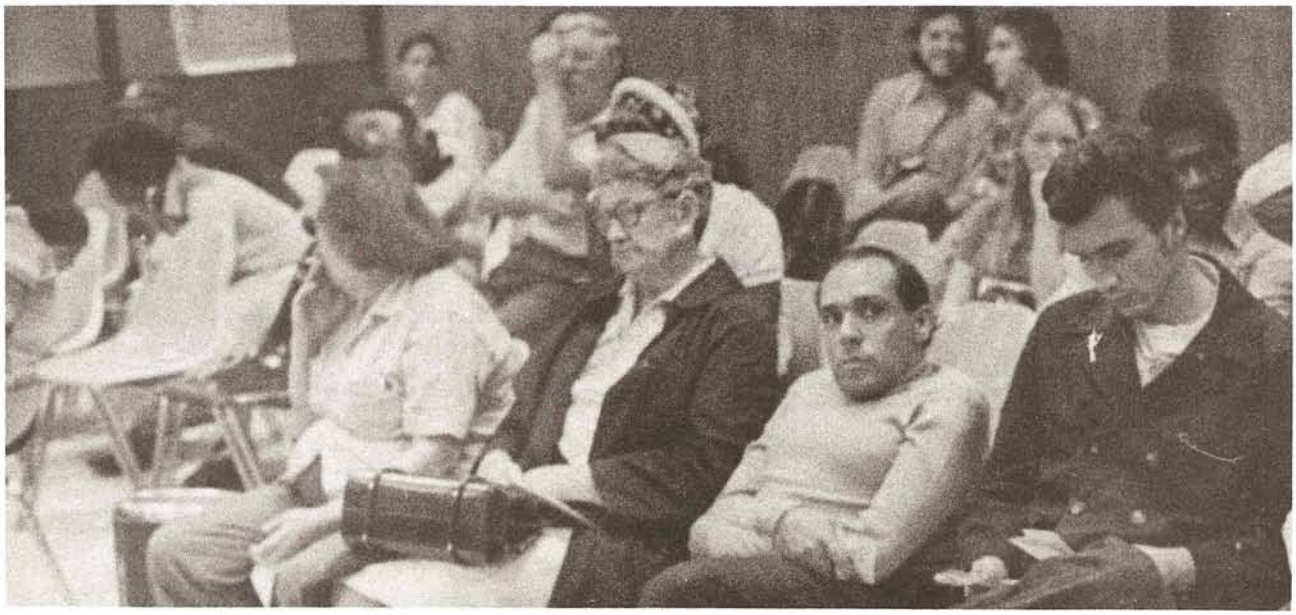
The number of Americans officially listed as "living in poverty" increased by over 2.5 million in 1975 (the largest rise in a single year since the government began keeping such statistics in 1959) with almost 25.9 million now classified as poor. Meanwhile, policy changes amounting to administrative cutbacks in welfare departments and other government social service agencies have escalated. This month *KEEP STRONG* presents a roundup of several current policies of the Illinois Department of Public Aid and the state of Illinois that have caused concern among poor and progressive people throughout the state. 0

The New Medical Card

Beginning October 1, 1976, all ADC recipients and other people eligible for medicaid will be receiving new medical cards. As of November 1 these cards will arrive in a separate envelope. The new cards - still green - will list each person in the household eligible for medical benefits, as they always have. But now, the cards will also include an identification number for each individual, whereas before there was one identification number for the case as a whole. These identification numbers will be taken from each person's own social security number.

In the event that the card is lost, a caseworker can no longer replace it. After November 1, it has to be replaced from the Bureau of Information Systems in Springfield. A caseworker can, however, issue a certificate that is valid for seven days while the new medical card is being processed and sent to the recipient. . This certificate is valid for emergency treatment. . It is only valid for regular doctors' visits or medication when the caseworker writes these particulars on the certificate at the time' it is issued. Follow-up visits for emergency treacment within the seven day period will not be paid for by the state, and recipients will have to pay for these services themselves.

Whereas few recipients have been informed of the new medical card policies, community organizations and welfare rights groups have expressed much concern; for many seniors as well as families with children who do not yet have social security cards there will be unnecessary hardship when they receive no medical card next month because they have no identification number. Other fears expressed are that the limited uses of the emergency certificate issued when a card is lost or stolen could result in serious medical problems and avoidable illness. It has been projected by some that many



As the number 01 Americans ollicially listed as "living in poverty" continues to increase, public aid's recent policy changes amounting to administrative cutbacks are escalating.

hospitals, clinics, doctors and pharmacies, for fear of never receiving payment, may well turn away patients who do not have cash in hand. Finally, it has been asked, what is to insure that the replacement medical card will be received by the recipient at the end of seven days when the emergency certificate runs out? And does this also mean that ADC recipients who receive their checks through currency exchanges will not be able to get next month's check if their medical card never arrives from Springfield? Currency exchanges will not turn over a check to anyone without proper identification which includes a special IDPA identification card as well as last month's medical card.D

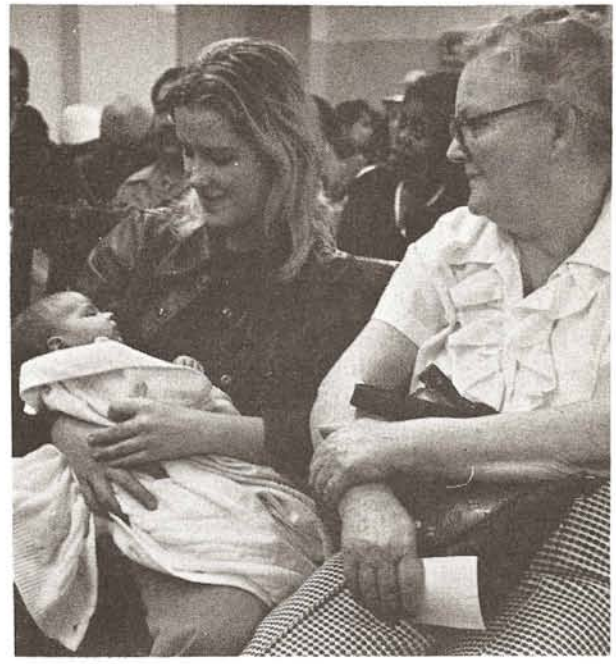
The IDPA And Child Support

A woman who has asked to remain anonymous recently applied for public aid. She had left her husband several times, and each time he would find her and threaten both her and her three year old son's lives. Feeling that her son needed her home with him instead of her being away all day at work, and with no one to help her raise him, she turned to public aid. The Illinois Department of Public Aid has a policy that if an ADC mother does not co-operate with the courts in bringing her husband or the father of her children to court for child support, she cannot continue to receive aid. This woman fears that if she does bring him to court the situation will worsen and her life will be greatly endangered.

Although spokespeople from public aid say "the cases are dealt with on an individual basis," they demand "proof' that a possibly dangerous situation exists. Other than a peace bond put out by the woman herself, there is no protection that either the Department of Public Aid or the police offer. There are many obvious situations where a woman's personal dignity is insulted or her safety jeopardized by this policy, community advocates point out. Many feel that this policy is only one of many "that are designed to discourage women who are eligible and in need of public aid from seeking it."O

Catch 22- Proof Of Birth

Many people in this country for one reason or another do not have birth certificates. Yet, it is a requirement of the Department of Public Aid that a birth certificate be presented before a person can be accepted to receive aid. The burden for this policy falls hardest on people who can least afford it, and in many instances has resulted in overt discrimination.



There are many obvious situations wnere a woman's safety or personal dignity is violated by the policy that she must disclose the father of her child.

Frank Burgos was born in Puerto Rico in 1911 and came to Chicago in June, 1975. He was not born in a hospital and has no certificate or other proof of birth. Because there are no records of his baptism which is sometimes accepted instead, he has been refused public aid. They say he isn't eligible, and if he can't prove he was born in Puerto Rico which automatically makes him a U.S. citizen, he must present public aid with proof of his citizenship. 0

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment- Still Going Up

Whereas President Ford and the Republican Party would have us believe that unemployment has let up recently and that this country's employment is on its way up, unemployment rose

again last month as it has continued to do since June.

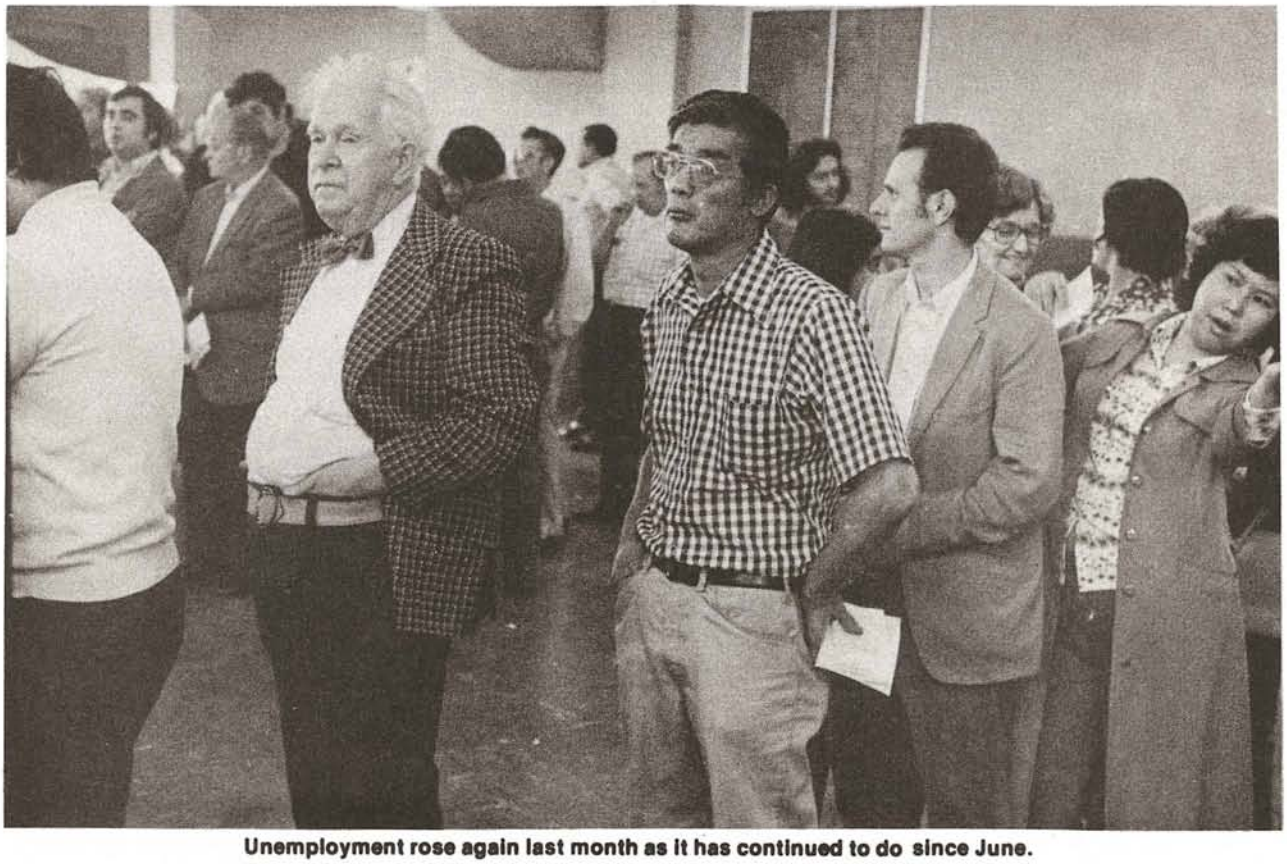
The unemployment rate for all Black and poor communities continues to be roughly twice that of the overall population, and the rate for youth was roughly 45% this summer, according to Chicago Urban League figures.

The methods used by the government to compute unemployment rates continues to be disputed by community organizations. Many people, they say, are no longer considered part of the work force and therefore not included in unemployment statistics. Yet many people lost their jobs so long ago that they are no longer eligible for unemployment benefits but still cannot find work. Some, with families to support and no other choice, go on welfare. Others hold part time jobs because they cannot find fulltime work. They are not making a reasonable standard of living and yet are not included in any of the official unemployment statistics.

Mr. James Turner, head of a large family, was laid off his job in June, 1975 after working there for 29 years. The company went out of business, and he was suddenly left jobless. During his 29 years of employment, he only missed 61 days, most of which were due to an accident he had while working.

A week after he was iaid off, he applied for unemployment. . It was four months before he received his first check. The family, in the meantime, was forced to go on welfare to keep the children fed. During those four months, they received two welfare checks. Because they received these checks they were told that they weren't eligible to receive the money from the first four months of unemployment that they were waiting for. When the unemployment checks finally began coming, the Turners stayed on unemployment until May, 1976. However, the checks came irregularly (they usually got them every six weeks instead of every two weeks), and one check which was sent to the wrong address was never replaced. In May they got a 13 week extension from unemployment. However, after that they only received four checks and were told that they would not get any more.

While Mr. Turner was working, he paid regular union dues of $36 every three months to his union local, International Brotherhood of Teamsters. However, when the company went out of business, he was told that he could not get any benefits from the union (in spite of 29 years worth of dues) unless he took over paying the dues of his employer which came to $40 a week, a good portion of the unemployment check he irregularly received.



Unemployment rose again last month as it has continued to do since June.

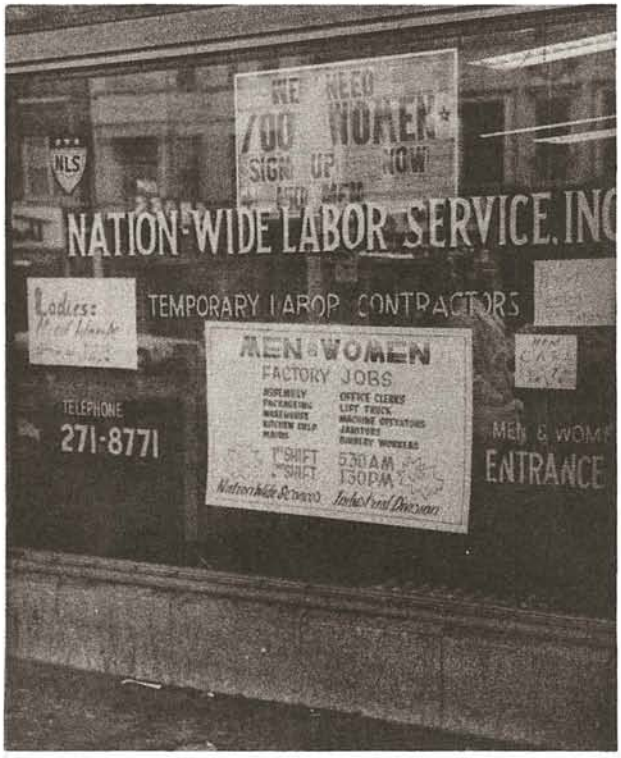
The family is now back on ADC. Mr. Turner has been looking for work regularly and reports to the WIN program once a week, but he hasn't been able to find a job. D

ON THE JOB

Workmen's Comp. Possible From *Daily Pay*

Many people in the oppressed community who have not been able to find jobs go to daily pay companies. Forced to work on a daily basis, for long hours and with no job security or benefits, there is usually no place to go in case of a labor dispute or injury. Consequently, it is virtually an unknown fact that in most cases a person who gets injured while working is qualified to receive workmen's compensation as well as money to pay medical bills due to the injury, money for lost wages and money for whatever permanent damage was done as a result of the injury.

On September 14, a young Uptown resident with a family to support went to Nationwide Day Labor Company for a job. They sent him to Peloze Scale Company where he injured himself while loading boxes. After returning home his shoulder began to swell, and any movement of his arm or shoulder was very painful.. He saw a doctor who told him he couldn't work for four to five weeks.



Day labor companies rarely inform injured workers that they are eligible for workmen's compensation.

The next morning he called Nationwide Day Labor. Their response was, "Tough luck; there's nothing we can do about it.." Peloze Scale Co. said, "Don't come back.." Feeling that since he had a contract at Peloze through Nationwide he should be able to be compensated, he sought advice through the 46th Ward Community Service Center where he was able to get the details of his rights as an injured worker.

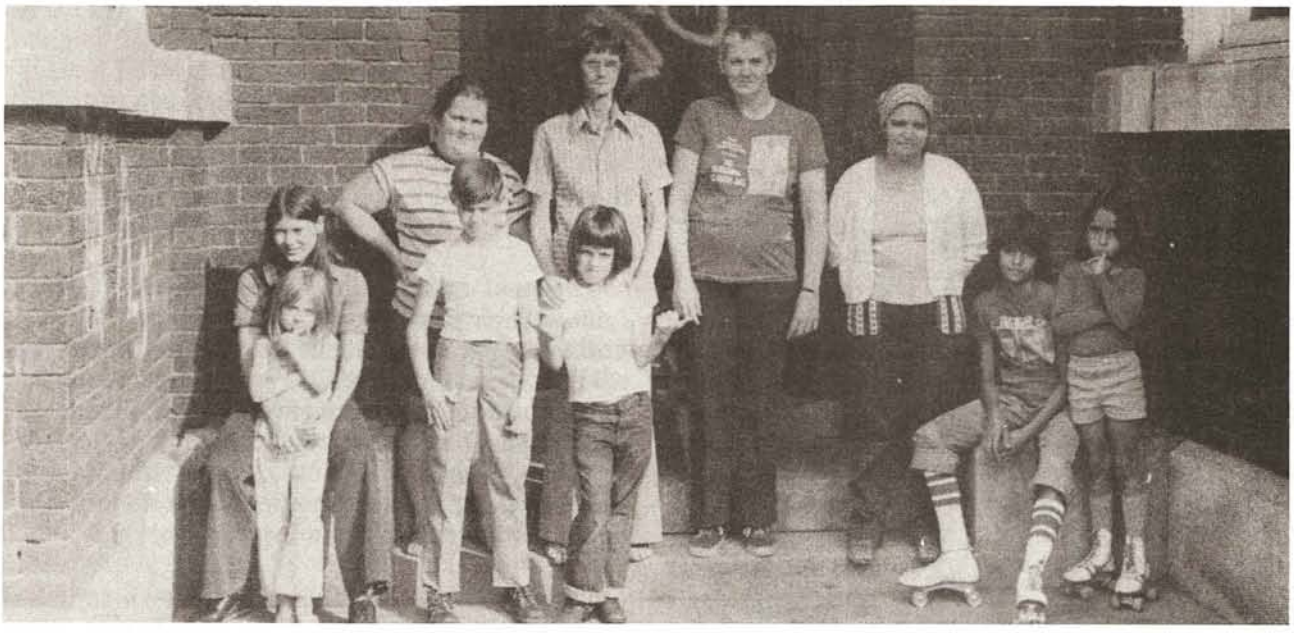
There are many people who receive injuries while working for day labor. Rarely are they informed by either the day labor company or the company they are contracted out to that they might be eligible for workmen's compensation. D

TENANTS' RIGHTS

Uptown Tenants Find New Solutions To *Housing Problems*

The siege of the community bounded by Montrose, Wilson, the "L" tracks and Clark began in the 1960's when the city unveiled its plan to build the new city college at the corner of Wilson and Racine. Residents have fought long and hard to save their community and to insure that it would remain a place for low-income families to live in. Throughout this process approximately 2,000 units of low-income housing have been destroyed. The buildings that remain represent the successes of this struggle and also. the last hope of many of the residents to be able to stay in Uptown.

The building at 4451-57 N. Malden, 1225-57 W. Sunnyside is located right in the heart of this community. It is owned by Norman A. Nikolic of 868 W. Lill and Frank Wing of 5555 S. Mobile,



The tenants who live at 4451 N. Magnolia are working with the Uptown Tenants Survival Union to save their building and their homes.

both in Chicago. The building, at this time, is in terrible condition and is in danger of being completely destroyed if the situation is not corrected. The tenants have recently initiated a struggle to save it. The view of many people in the community is that if this building is lost, it will set the stage for many others in the immediate area to go the same way, and be lost as homes for low-income, large families.

At the present time, this 20 unit building has six apartments which are vacant, four occupied by young people - close friends of Frank Wing- and nine others occupied by large families. Approximately 65 children live in this building. For the last two years, since Frank Wing turned over the management to his son, it is quite obvious that no repairs have ever been made. At this time violations include: no hot water; faulty electrical wiring (with many of the apartments having no electricity whatsoever); many broken windows; toilets and other plumbing fixtures which do not work; sewage backed up into the basement; and no regular garbage pick-up, resulting in piles of garbage and debris in the rear of the building which attract rats and other pests. Most of these violations present a serious health and safety hazard.

Near the end of August, the tenants decided that something had to be done about the situation, but they were faced with a very difficult dilemma. The past experience of many has been that when violations of a serious nature were pursued through "proper" channels to try and get some remedy, it often ended in self-defeat; the judge in a compliance court will agree that the violations in a building do present a serious health and safety hazard, so he immediately orders the building vacated, leaving all of these large families with no place to live, and accelerating the process of destruction that the tenants were trying to prevent in the first place.

In late September the tenants decided along with other members of the Uptown Tenants Survival Union to try and work out some way to deal with the situation. The following program was worked out, stressing that the only way it could be successful would be with the widespread support of other community residents:

1. On October 14, the owners are to appear in criminal housing court to answer charges of criminal housing mismanagement which have been brought against them by the city. The tenants agreed that they should send observers to this trial to insure that their interests are not overlooked;
2. The tenants will try to work out an agreement with the city's corporation counsel that under no circumstances in any court proceeding will he ask for an order to vacate. At this time the corporation counsel has agreed to this;
3. At no time during any of this process should any of the tenants be evicted nor their rents increased. The vacant apartments can be used to temporarily house anyone whose apartment has to be vacated to make repairs. Rents

should not be increased because that would be an unfair burden to people who already have been forced to live in substandard conditions. Any money needed to make repairs should come from a source other than the tenants.

4. If the landlord is unable or unwilling to make the necessary repairs to bring the building into compliance, then the court should appoint a suitable receiver who will work with the tenants, taking over the management of the building until all repairs are made.

As a spokesperson for the tenants has stated, "In light of everything that has been going on around housing in this community, it is of the upmost importance that this building be saved. The list of demands that the tenants have worked out are both reasonable and possible to bring about.. The fact of the matter is that the city has two or three agencies which can and do deal with the destruction of housing, but no agency to deal with saving a building that is in trouble. We have got to change this if we are going to have any place at all to live in, in the city of Chicago."O

Milwaukee Tenants Organize For Decent, Safe Housing

The building at 1707 S. 6th St. on Milwaukee's southside is located on the corner of 6th and Mitchell streets in the middle of a $1.2 million strip of grass and concrete. This community development project called the Mitchell Street Pedestrian Mall has been sponsored by merchants and building owners in the area who matched funds with the city to build it.

For months the tenants of the 24 unit corner building have asked the manager and the owner's agent for basic repairs and maintenance. Their requests, growing out of a common concern for decent and safe living conditions, have included replacement of plastic door knobs, safe railings, fire extinguishers, clean hallways and locks on their mailboxes so that their checks won't be stolen.

After receiving no response from the agent's son Marty Johnson, who is the caretaker, the tenants confronted agent Harry Johnson who claimed that the owner, Curtis H. Windsor, who lives in Florida, won't authorize him to put any money into the building. Harry Johnson also told the tenants that Windsor put $44,000 into the Mitchell Street Development Project..

The tenants, who believe that Windsor is either planning on selling his building because the development project has not paid off for him or is planning to remodel his building and force the tenants out, are determined to keep their homes. Tired of runarounds from the building's manager and from the city building inspectors who have refused to move swiftly to enforce existing repair orders, the tenants contacted the Milwaukee Tenants Union whose staff and

1707 S. 16th St. is located in the middle of a $1.2 million merchant-sponsored community development project.

members advised them of their rights and put their full support behind the people in their struggle.

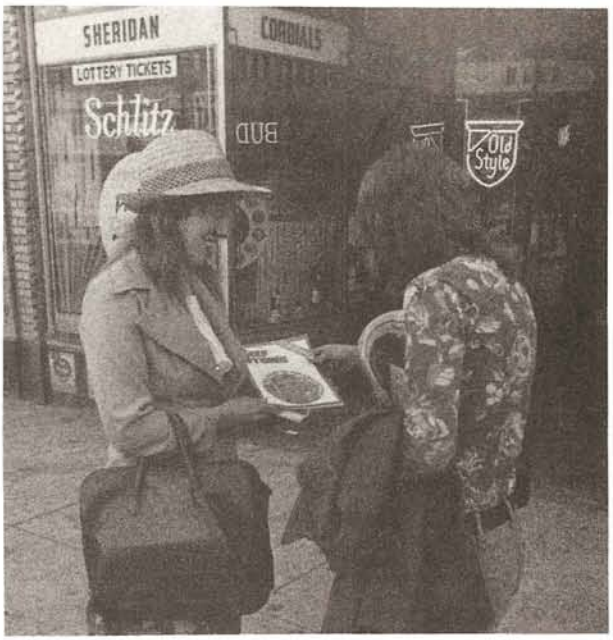
With this support the tenants, who are determined to work together and to force the landlord to reveal his plan for their homes, have decided to begin a series of negotiations with Johnson and Windsor to get a commitment for a series of repairs and better maintenance. As one angry tenant said, "The manager told us that if we had a meeting we would all get evicted. But if we get scared we won't get anywhere. He hasn't got chains on us."O

POLICE WATCH

Harassment a/Keep Strong *Continues*

On Thursday, September 16, as workers were attempting to move into the new facility of Keep Strong Publishing Company at 1222 W. Wilson, Officer Culver of the 23rd District police station tried to stop them. It was approximately 20 minutes after midnight, and Culver claimed that there was a city ordinance which prohibited moving between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. When questioned as to the validity of this, Culver responded by saying that since they did not have a copy of the city ordinance book on them, they could not disprove what he was saying, and they would have to believe him; if they attempted to move one more thing into the building, he would begin making arrests.

When the watch commander was called to complain of this action, he stated that there had been complaints from neighbors that the movinOg was making too much noise. The absurdity of this was obvious by the fact that; 1) Culver in no way mentioned this when he originally made contact with the group and in fact had given an entirely different reason when stating why they could not move; 2) the 1200 block of Wilson is strictly a commercial block and after midnight no businesses are open. The only building which is open at that time of night besides the community center is the fire station, and with their sirens going off every 15 to 30 minutes all night, it is unlikely that they would complain about noise; 3) Officer Culver arrived on the scene no more than five



KEEP STRONG sellers have been constantly harassed by Officer Culver with apparent approval by his immediate superiorso

minutes after the moving truck did, and in fact no moving had yet begun when he complained, stating it was against the law.

Officer Culver appeared in the November, 1975 issue of *KEEP STRONG,* regarding an incident where he allegedly beat Robert DeMari. At that time, members of the Intercommunal Survival Committee, which publishes *KEEP STRONG* magazine, circulated a petition calling for his removal from the police force because of his tendency to lose control of himself.. Since that time Culver has taken every opportunity to harass anyone associated with the ISC or *KEEP STRONG.* He has continuously harassed sellers of the magazine threatening them with arrest for distributing it, always inquiring if he is in the newest issue. He has been named in *KEEP STRONG's* suit against the police department (see July, 1976 issue of *KEEP STRONG).*

On September 23, Jack Hart, co-ordinator of the 46th Ward Community Service Center (which shares the building with Keep Strong Publishing Company) sent a letter to Commander Hanly of the 23rd district complaining of Culver's behavior. The letter stated in part:

"The reason that I am submitting this letter to you is because I would like to lodge a formal complaint against Officer Culver with regards to his past actions against members of the Intercommunal Survival Committee, the 46th Ward Community Service Center, and persons associated with *KEEP STRONG* magazine .". W€

now share the same building with Keep Strong Publishing Company, and we have become somewhat concerned with the actions of Officer Culver, and his seemingly vindictive behavior ... the degree of personal hostility and the totally arbitrary and subjective actions which Officer Culver carries on towards members of the above mentioned organizations causes us some concern.

We feel that the actions of Officer Culver are unbecoming of a police officer and in no way further good police-community relations which are so necessary for the prevention of crime. We would like to request that Officer Culver be reprimanded, and that he either be transferred out of the Uptown area or removed from the police department altogether since he has shown that he can not carry out his duties as a police officer objectively."

Police Try To Solicit 16 Year Old

The woman described in the incident in the following article chose to remain anonymous because she is a ward of the state and a minor. She is referred to as Betty Jones.

On September 19, Betty Jones was walking down Wilson Avenue near Racine Street about 10 p.m. when three plain clothes policemen, Officers Dolan, Soristo and Salyers, in an unmarked car pulled along side her saying, "Hey sweet thing, how'd you like to make some money?" Ms. Jones cursed at them, so they pulled up on the sidewalk and said, "We were just saying hello." She responded, "I don't like men saying hello to me out of cars," and continued walking down the street. The man in the back seat said "You'd better stop. We're police." They then threatened to arrest her for cursing at the police. Ms. Jones got very upset at this point and began to cry hysterically. The police returned to their car and left.

Ms. Jones immediately went to the 46th Ward Community Service Center and told the story to one of its legal representatives. The next day a complaint was filed with the Office of Professional Standards which is supposed to investigate wrongdoings by the police. A few days later Sergeant Carroll came out to investigate. He told a representative from the Service Center that he had talked to Ms. Jones and that she must have misquoted the officers because they had said nothing about money. Therefore, he said, it was not a case of solicitation, and no wrongdoing on the part of the police officers could be found. The next day, Ms. Jones informed the center representative that she had in fact signed a complaint saying she had been offered money and received a court date.

Concerned by the apparently intentional attempt by Sergeant Carroll to misinform her of the status of Ms. Jones' complaint, the Center's representative charged, "The police provoked this incident themselves. They showed no respect to this young sister, and now they are trying to cover themselves up. If this is the kind of attitude they walk around our community with, how can we have any faith that they will ever enforce the law?"

"If this is the kind of attitude they [the police] walk around the community with, how can we have any faith that they will ever enforce the law?"

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

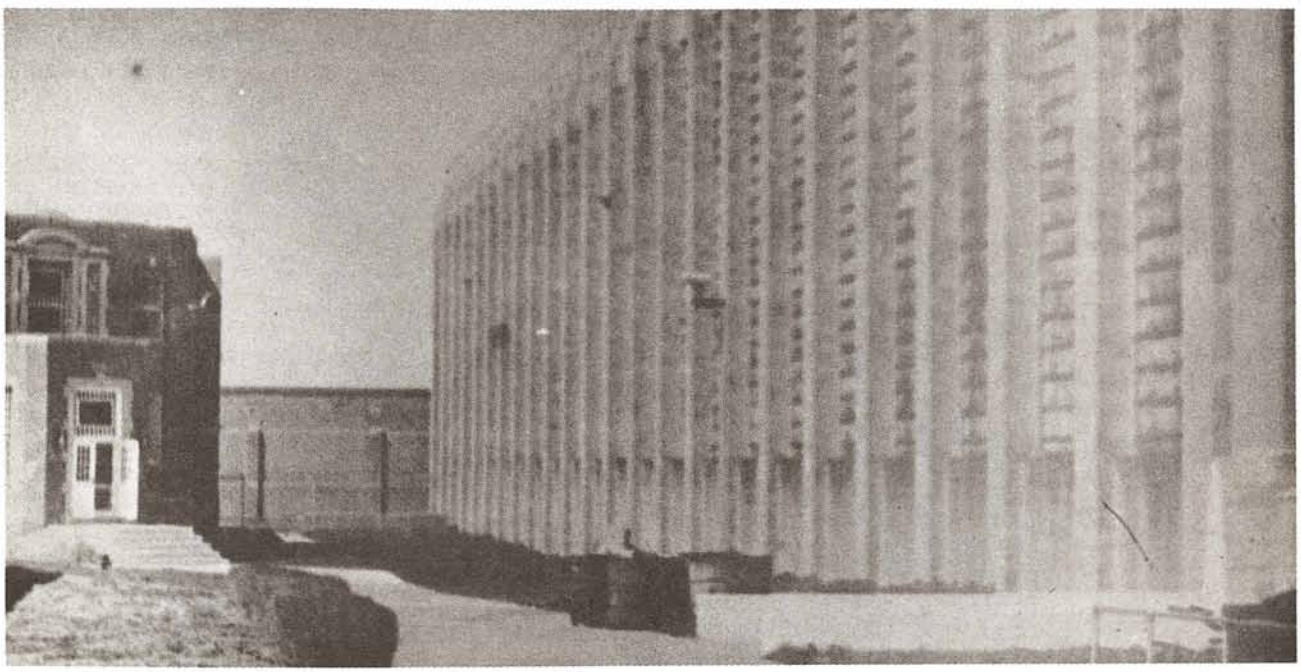
Pontiac Hunger *Strike Cover.-Up*

A hunger strike September 20-27 to protest conditions at Pontiac Correctional Center was the focus of an administration cover-up last month, according to the Pontiac Prison Collective in letters recently received by *KEEP STRONG.* Beginning the first day of the hunger strike, the administration called for a general lock-up keeping residents in their cells 24 hours a day, without exercise, showers, clean linen or toilet paper. In addition, there have been apparent restrictions on sick-call, and a memo issued by Asst.. Warden Sandahl prevents envelopes from being purchased at the inmates' commissary making communication outside the institution very difficult. Following are excerpts from one of the letters received by *KEEP STRONG* describing the conditions at the state prison.

"The food being served in this institution is degrading. It is prepared very poorly; it is cold, half-cooked and most of the time left over from the meal before. The dining room is a human disaster zone. We are forced to eat with plastic spoons, the very same ones that the Board of Health declared unsanitary and had banned from all hospitals, because plastic is a substance that cannot be sterilized and therefore should be used only once. The officials here keep the steel spoons locked up and only put them out when they hear that someone important is coming inside the institution. Recently, the two men assigned to the kitchen were found to have serious illnesses. The trays that we get to eat out of are dirty and usually have yesterday's meal left in them. Garbage cans are kept in the dining room giving a foul odor that we have to smell and breathe. The cans also draw a lot of flies, maggots and germs. The floor stays wet and sloppy, which makes it easy to slip and fall.

"The clothes that we receive are nothing but hand-me-down seconds. They don't fit properly. Most of them have had repair work done on them, don't have buttons and are full of holes when we get them. The worst part of it is we can't get them when we need them. The budget for this institution came in July of this year. Where is the money going that was appropriated for these purposes? There is one thing for sure - this money is not being used to fill the needs of 1,400 men who are now held in this institution.

"The hospital is very poor, and the medical attention that we receive is just as bad. There should be a registered doctor in this institution 24 hours a day. The one doctor that the institution has cannot properly treat all the inmates here, as he only runs in and stays an hour or two at the most and is gone until the next day. They have the medical equipment in this



A hunger strike to protest conditions at Pontiac Correctional Center [above] was the focus of an administration cover-up last month.

hospital that's necessary to perform any operation needed, but they lack the doctor to perform these operations. Some of this equipment has never been used. In case of an emergency, this institution is left doctor less, and the victims are left uncared for or lifeless. The inmates that come in are not getting a physical before being released into the general population. There are some inmates being kept in population who are known to have traces of TB. All types of sickness are going around the institution, and they are easily caught. .

"The inmates' commissary is managed very poorly. There are a lot of things it doesn't have in stock that are being sold at other institutions - Stateville, Joliet, Menard and Vandalia. There was an approved commissary list that came out in 1975, stating that all the institutions had to sell the same things, but the commissary at this institution has made no changes since the standardized list was approved. All of these items used to be sold but were taken off for no apparent reason.

"The inmates' monthly pay is delayed, and in some cases the seven and a half days good time is delayed. Sometimes the pay is two and three months behind. For some inmates this is the only source of income. Some inmates that come in on the new don't get their money for three and four months after they are here, especially those assigned to details such as the high school, grade school, vocational school, gallery workers and the LTA (Leisure Time Activity).

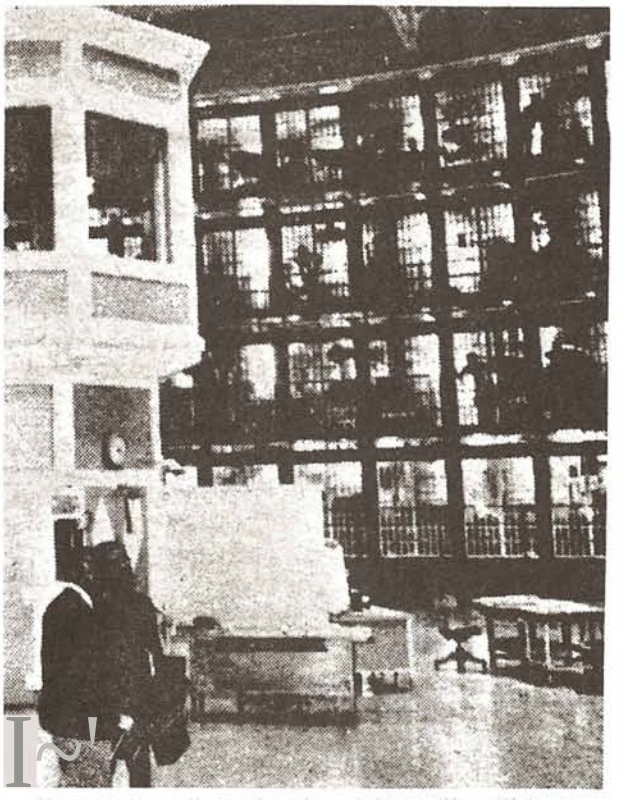
"The Adjustment Committee and the Institutional Inquiry Board (IIB) are unjust; you can't talk to them within reason. They think that everything you say to them is a lie or a joke. They don't care if the reporting officer is lying or not, because in their eyes he's never wrong, and we are never right. . As it stands now we can get locked up for a particular violation anywhere from three to six months. Instead of having set days for a certain violation, we are given an indefinite sentence. One inmate might get ten days for a violation whereas another might get 30 days for the same violation. There should be a specified amount of time given for each violation. First, they lock you up before you go to court; second, they lock you up when you get to court; and third, they will take your good time, so before all is said and done you have suffered three and four blows for one simple violation. They will also put a padlock on your cell door, without giving you a ticket or any justification as to why you are locked up, thus violating the rights given us in the unified code."[]

Stateville Industries *Closing Down*

The Citizens Visiting Committee, sponsored by the Illinois Prisons and Jails Project, a progressive organization which makes regular visits to prisons and jails throughout Illinois, visited Stateville on September 2, 1976. Following is a description by CVC member Pat Spaulding of the phasing out of the state institution's industries, leaving prison residents no alternative to long and deadening hours in their cells.

"The population continues to grow: Stateville - 2,585; minimum security - 186. Presently the work force in industries is as follows: tailor shop - 80; furniture shop - 55; soap factory - 28; sheet metal is closed down completely; master mechanics - 91.

"We first visited the tailor shop. In past years over 450 inmates have been employed at one time there, but it's down to 80 inmates now. Being employed isn't the most pleasant thing - wages start at 10 cents an hour, maximum being 50 cents an hour, and a lot of the skills learned aren't marketable on the outside because they learn to make so few types of clothes - but being out of the cell for part of the day makes serving time



Closing down the industries at Stateville will leave more men on lockup for long periods of time.

easier.

"When we went to the soap factory the man in charge of the facility said that because the supply of raw materials to make soap has been depleted, he has had the inmates at the soap factory painting. It was indicated that most of the facility had been scrubbed and painted thoroughly, and inmates would have to be put in the labor pool (dead time when inmates remain in their cells except for occasional showers, yard time and three meals in the cell house) if additional soapmaking supplies weren't bought. .

"The CVC inquired as to why it was so difficult to get supplies for the soap factory. The only response was that the money wasn't allocated. But money ($100,000) has been allocated to build an elaborate tunnel system between cell houses complete with electronic gates and television monitors. Inmates are employed to do this work that further confines them and keeps them from feeling the sunlight on their skin. This tunnel job would have cost a half million dollars if outside commercial workers had been hired.

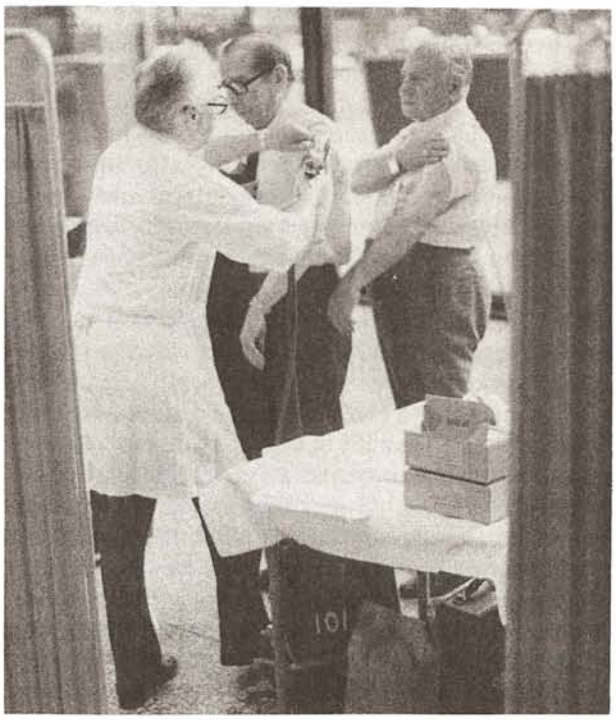
"We briefly toured the furniture factory where we were told that work has been cut back greatly in the last six months. The men in charge of the factory said they can't compete with outside prices, and this was the reason for the cutbacks. Many others felt that if the goal was to train and involve inmates in productive work, that the industry could be reorganized so that it would be self-supporting.

"The industries are being reorganized, and the trend is clearly to lock more men up for long periods of time during the day rather than to educate and employ them. New educational school programs are in the planning. It is our hope that every inmate will be given the opportunity to participate in the field of learning he chooses."O

HEALTH NEWS

Scanty Evidence For *Swine Flu*

President Ford's plan to immunize every American adult against the dreaded swine flu - thought but not proved to be related to the flu



As the Chicago Board of Health begins swine flu innoculations, questions of risk and effectiveness are raised-

virus that killed a half a million Americans in 1918 - is in serious trouble, reports the *Great Speckled Bird,* published by the Atlanta Co-operative News Project. .

Insurance companies, fearing unforeseen risks from use of the swine flu vaccine, have refused to insure its manufacturers. And now a barrage of critics - including one of the doctors who discovered the virus, a senior researcher for the government agency that monitors vaccine safety, and the head of the Public Citizen's Health Research Group - are charging that:

• There is only the scantiest evidence that a swine flu epidemic will occur.

• Most of the deaths attributed to the 1918 outbreak resulted not from the virus but from secondary complications that today are routinely treated with antibiotics.

• Even those who discovered the new virus acknowledge it is no more virulent than other recent flu strains that have not required costly mass immunizations.

• Vaccination science is still primitive, mass immunizations are perilous and vaccines must be tested extensively for dangerous side effects. As recently as 1955 a faulty polio vaccine killed ten and infected 192 others with paralytic polio.

The swine flu scare began last winter when Georgia health authorities conducting a routine check on a flu could not identify the type of virus

in some of the blood samples. They alerted the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, where scientists announced in late February that the mystery virus - now called A New Jersey - resembled one that causes influenza in pigs.

Because almost all survivors of the worldwide epidemic of 1918 have antibodies for the swine virus - the one that resembles A-New Jersey - CDC scientists hypothesized that the new strain might be related to the killer virus of 60 years ago. But they could develop no hard proof. Their hypothesis, however, was sufficient to spur President Ford and his advisors to plan by far the largest immunization campaign in U.S. history for this fall - once the vaccine has been developed and tested.

Dr. Sidney Wolfe, director of the Public Citizen's Health Research Group, argues that even if the virus is identical to the 1918 strain, modern antibiotics and health care would prevent a repetition of the earlier disaster. Science advisors at the federal Center for Disease Control pointedly avoided endorsing any mass immunization schemes. Yet CDC administrators backed the Ford plan.

The same thing happened at the Division of Biologics Standards (DBS), the government agency charged with monitoring the safety and effectiveness of vaccines. One of DBS's principal researchers, Dr. J. Anthony Morris, says he thinks the Fort Dix situation is no cause for alarm, that mass immunization is risky, offers no real hope of protection, and is utterly unjustified. "If it were up to me," he said, "I wouldn't even start making the vaccine ... There is no clear-cut evidence that inactivated vaccines offer appreciable protection to the recipients."

Meanwhile, other critics charge that the immunization plan is not only unwarranted, but a threat to the health of the American public.O

Reprinted from The Black Panther

FIGHTING CITY HALL

Bankers Behind Chicago 21 Plan

After the November election, the city of Chicago will release its new "master" plan for Chicago neighborhoods and the central city. Recent events, including a major international business executives' meeting, suggest that the city is moving quickly to implement the Chicago 21 Plan and hasten the destruction of low-income communities.

At the three day conference sponsored by the International Downtown Executives' Association held last month at the Palmer House, corporate and bank executives from all major U.S. cities

Chicago 21 Plan executives and sponsors blame Chicago's majority "Black, poor and elderly" for the city's decay as they speak of the need to rebuild Chicago to make it more attractive to the white middle and upper class, "the backbone citizens of the city who are now being driven out."

attended workshops to discuss revitalizing the central city. The conference cost $185 to attend.

Blaming Chicago's majority "Black, poor and elderly" for the city's decay, Grover Hanson, President of the First Federal Savings and Loan Association, spoke of the need to rebuild Chicago so that it would be more attractive to the white middle and upper class, "the backbone citizens of the city who are now being driven out."

The Chicago 21 Corporation-formed by these businessmen to revitalize the city-is ready to purchase for $7 million a 50 acre site in the south loop area. They plan to build a "walled" community with one entrance and exit.. This "city within a city" will extend from Polk St. to 15th St., between State and Clark.

While original plans called for a community center and parks, the planners fear these facilities might attract "undesirables" to the area. In order to keep Black and poor people out of the area, plans are being considered to discontinue Roosevelt Rd. as a major transfer site for bus and "L" transportation. Furthermore, the corporation wants assurance from the city that the area east of State St. and south of the loop will be designated a redevelopment area, designed to attract young executives, city workers and middle and upper-income families.

Money is being sought from the Illinois Housing Development Authority to finance construction of 180 units of senior citizen housing. This housing is not for low-income seniors-rent starts at $245 per month-but for retired bank presidents!

Meanwhile the Dept. of Development and Planning (DDP) and the Central Area Committee (the chief Chicago 21 planners) are hiring out-of-town consultants to assist in security planning for the South Loop New Town as well as Humboldt Park, West Town and Cabrini Green. The Illinois Law Enforcement Commission, which is cutting back on grants to community groups, has recently appropriated $5.4 million to carry out the three year Cabrini Green High Impact Program, designed by the CHA and the city to "fight crime" in Cabrini.. In part, this plan calls for new security fencing and a resident photo identification system which will assure that "only building residents will be allowed in the buildings." The Chicago Police Department is being consulted in the security planning for the Chicago 21 Plan, and according to one source, plans are to eventually develop a model security ordinance for the entire city.

When members of a Chicago tenants organization recently asked a city planner about low-income housing in the Chicago 21 Plan, the DDP spokesperson acknowledged the need but said that Plan 21 was not a plan to "solve inequities, but to restore domestic tranquility to Chicago."

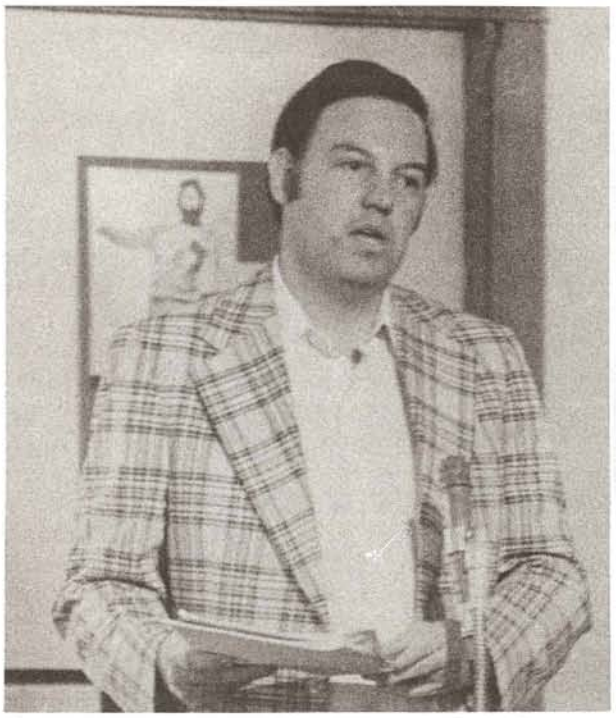
In response, community leaders stated that the plan is nothing more than the city's attempt to destroy Chicago's Black, Latino and poor oppressed communities. They use their "law and order" and "economic attraction" schemes to try and destroy poor communities. The Chicago 21 Plan does not stop at South Loop New Town, but intends also to bring middle class people to Pilsen, Humboldt Park, Cabrini Green and so on. The $7 million they are using to attract middle class people to the city could well be spent on the city's existing communities to solve their many problems and to improve the lives of the people now living in Chicago. O

Progressive Alderman Introduces Rent Control Ordinance

Speaking before the Intercommunal Survival Committee's weekly Sunday Community Forum, October 3, the progressive alderman of the 44th ward, Dick Simpson, outlined recent legislation that he and Ald. Block of the 48th ward introduced to the Chicago City Council.

The proposed ordinance would establish an interim rent commission, considered a first step in the battle to hold rents to a reasonable level, which would prevent speculators and developers from using rent increases as a tool to force low-income tenants from an area that is being redeveloped.

The proposal provides safeguards for tenants who feel their rents are being unnecessarily raised. If a tenant were to receive a notice of a rent increase, he or she could go before the commission for a hearing. A list of building violations and safety hazards could also be presented, and the commission would be obligated to send out inspectors to make a finding. The decision of the commission would be binding.



Progressive Alderman of the 44th ward, Dick Simpson outlined recent tenant legislation introduced in the City Council.

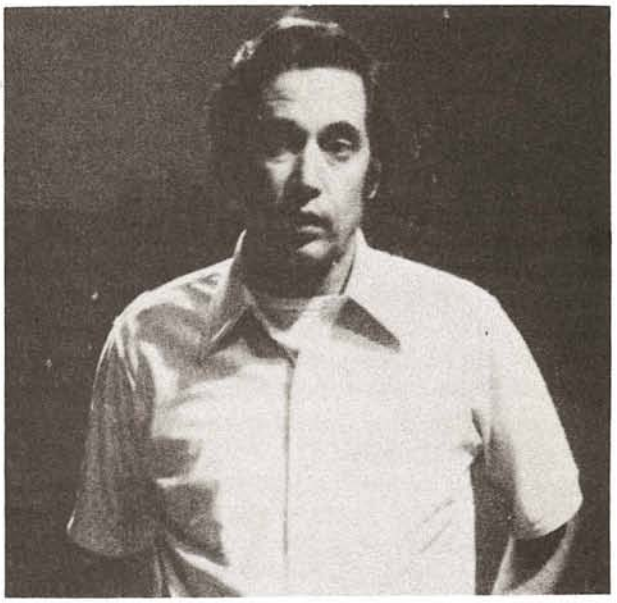
Commenting on the "entirely political" nature of the issue, Ald. Simpson emphasized that although the proposal itself "may not be the most radical," it is a foot in the door and one which developers like Harry Chaddick don't want to touch. Chaddick has been appointed by Mayor Daley to head his own rent control commission which has been assigned to present a report to the city on the pros and cons of rent control.. One of its responsibilities was to hold public hearings to ascertain city-wide tenants' concern for rent controls.

Several community organizations, including one that picketed Chaddick's Lakeview home at 3270 N. Lake Shore Drive, have objected to the methods used by this fact finding group. They claim that hearings have been held in locations difficult for tenants to get to and that proper notification hasn't been made. The expected result has been low attendance which they say is the justification for the Daley commission's report that little tenant concern exists for rent control..

Pointing out that two members of this commISSIOn live on the northside and are therefore vulnerable to community pressure, Simpson suggested that concerned community residents be sure to register their protest to both Harry Chaddick and former 48th ward alderwoman, Mary Lou Hedlund. O

ISC Makes Local Endorsements For November Elections

The Intercommunal Survival Committee has announced support for two independents running for state representative on Chicago's northside 12th district, and urges voters to repeat their March performance and vote to defeat Judge Joseph Powers in his last stab attempt to remain a judge.



State Representative Art Telcser [12th district] has shown a willingness to seek out and be accountable to the community.

Support for Ellis Levin and incumbent Art Telcser, both running in the Lakeview-Uptown district where three legislators will be elected, is urged by ISC spokespersons because "they have both been frequent participants in ISC Community Forums, and have shown a willingness to seek out and be accountable to the needs and desires of the community."

Judge Powers, on the other hand, has received unqualified ratings for the post he currently holds by many community and civic-minded organizations including the Chicago Council of Lawyers. Noting that Powers attempted to obstruct the trial of Hanrahan for the murder of Fred Hampton and that he was involved with Daley in covering for the use of the Mayor's personal intelligence agent, John Clarke, the ISC urges everyone to "Vote Down Powers."O

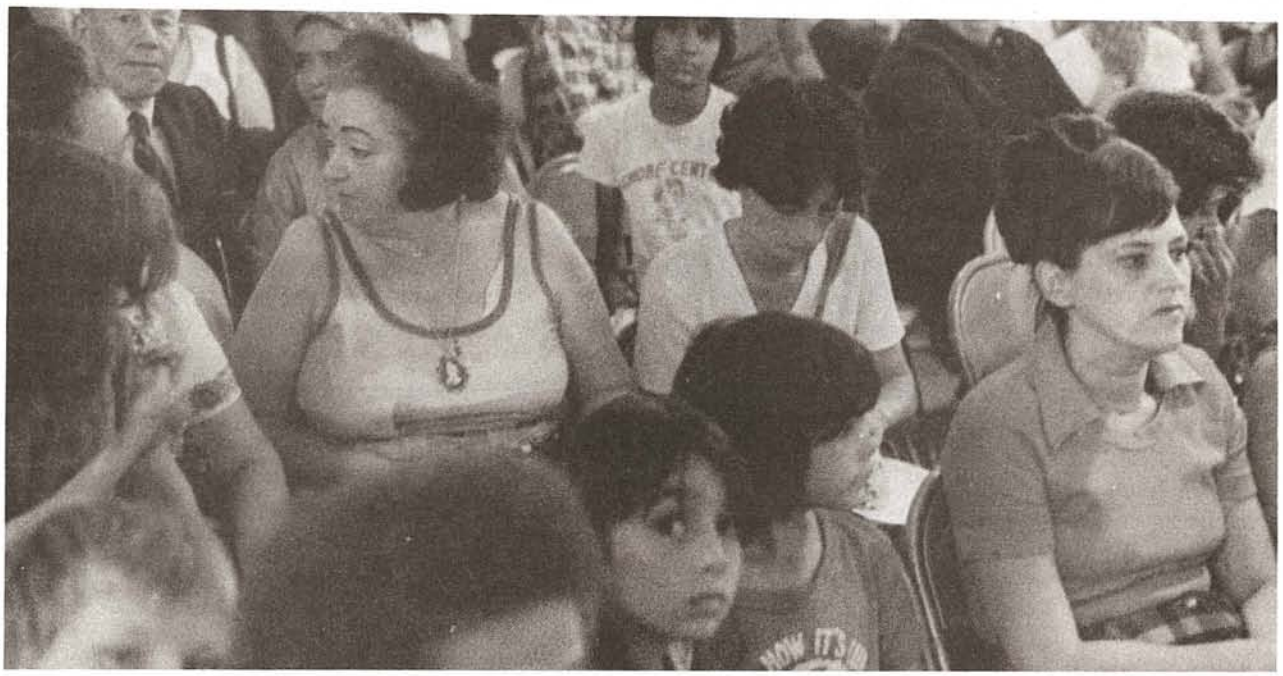
New Uptown Center Opens

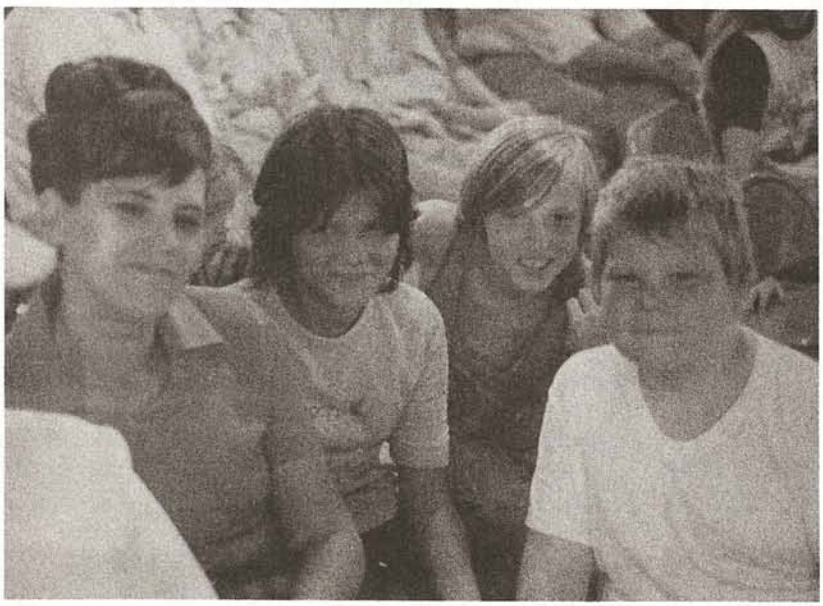
"We Intend to Stay in This Community"

"An institution dedicated to our right to live in a stable community," is the motto of the 46th Ward Community Service Center which unveiled its new facility at 1222 W. Wilson at its grand opening on Sunday, September 19. The new center located in the heart of the Uptown community "is a statement by the people of this community that we will not give up in our fight, no matter what happens," according to the center's co-ordinator, Jack Hart. "This new facility is one that all of us in the neighborhood can be truly proud of. It is our way of showing that we will continue to build our people's institutions even as we are being attacked from all sides and the city is using every means at its disposal to destroy this community."

The 46th Ward Community Service Center was founded in June, 1975. Organized by the Intercommunal Survival Committee, it grew out of a campaign promise made by Jose "Cha-Cha" Jimenez during his campaign for alderman of the 46th ward. "The idea was to create a multi-service institution which would be a real alternative to the service center of the regular Democratic organization; a center which would deal with the real needs and desires of the whole community rather than just catering to the special interest groups often served exclusively by partisan organizations like the Democratic Party."

The Service Center sponsors the Uptown Tenants Survival Union which has over 600 members in the Uptown community. It offers tenants' rights counseling, assistance with all types of housing problems, as well as running its own food buying club and sponsoring other types of activities like the Summer Free Lunch for Children Program. In addition the Service Center has a legal program which provides assistance in both civil and criminal matters and is open for counseling every Monday and Tuesday night from 5 to 9 p.m. The Welfare Defense Program deals with all types of problems with the Department of Public Aid and the Social Security Administration. "We basic-





Clockwise, from top left: The first prize in the first people's monthly raffle went to Beverly Jesse; picking the winners; popular community singers, Gary Stromme and Kim Nash; over 300 people packed the new facility at the grand opening.

ally try to work with the community to solve any and all types of problems which affect our common survival."

At the grand opening, the staff of the Service Center announced it would make its new meeting hall available for any community activity designed to bring the people closer together. The opening celebration was attended by over 300 people who packed the new facility for the first people's monthly raffle, the proceeds of which go to finance the new center, and to view the new offices which were remodeled by community residents who contributed a great deal of their time to make the facility attractive and functional.

As was stated by the center's co-ordinator, "Our community is moving increasingly into a state of siege. The city college has come in and taken over 1200 of our homes. Model Cities, the mayor's office, the Montrose Urban Progress Center are pulling out of the community, thinking that it won't be long before the poor residents of Uptown are only a memory. But we have not yet given up. We refuse to quit struggling or to concede defeat to the rich speculators and crooked politicians. We intend to stay in this community. We opened our new facility as a monument to the people who have struggled and will continue to struggle for a decent life. We refuse to give up because like poor people all over Chicago, we have no place else to go."O

Over 600 Attend Successful Southside People's Community Survival Day Rally in Milwaukee

"I've been in the Black Panther Party since 1968, and I've never spoken on the southside before. This is a great development. . We have a lot in common. People are hungry, and they don't have jobs. Right here is a common denominator for all people to be able to get together and do things together."

With these words Ronald Starks, co-ordinator of the Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Panther Party captured the theme of the event for the enthusiastic crowd of over 600 who attended the recent Southside People's Community Survival Rally in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The survival rally, sponsored by the recently formed Milwaukee chapter of the Intercommunal Survival Committee provided registration for the Free Transportation to Prison Program, free blood pressure testing, Legal and Welfare Defense Program booths, 200 free dog and cat distemper shots, while popular songstress Kim Nash sang to the audience's delight. Highlighted by speakers from the Milwaukee Tenants Union, Esperanza Unida Industrial Program, the Intercommunal Survival Committee and the Black Panther Party, the successful event concluded with the distribution of 500 free bags of groceries with a dozen grade A large eggs in every bag.

As each speaker outlined the lessons which had been learned in the ongoing struggle of oppressed people-the need to overcome individual differences and the necessity for all poor people to work together-the program's message, we must defend the right to survive, became crystal clear.

Tim Kelly, outlining the work of the Milwaukee Tenants Union, pointed out that tenants have no rights except those which they choose to enforce through the power of their own organization. He spoke of the city's negligence and inertia in dealing with substandard housing conditions and gave concrete examples of how landlords, utility companies and others who prey on tenants have backed down when faced with the strength of that organization.

A large group, including program director Ted Uribe, represented the Esperanza Unida Industrial Program on the speakers' platform. They discussed the hardships and forced poverty which millions of injured industrial workers face each day, while the government has continued to refuse to support their program concretely and has, in fact, done everything it could to kill it. Describing their work which is to insure that injured industrial workers receive quality counseling and representation in their fight for compensation, they declared their intention to work with anybody in the community who is genuinely concerned with survival. .

Milwaukee ISC co-ordinator Marc Zalkin, explaining the six year history of the ISC and its relationship to the Black Panther Party, remarked that poor white people have found themselves in the strange position of being shoved around by the government and its agencies, while refusing to work with or take direction from people of color. This, he said, is the main reason for the formation and work of the ISC, as he announced the opening of the ISC's Milwaukee office and the beginning of several survival programs in the southside community. Addressing his remarks to the poor white people in the large crowd, he asked people to take a look at themselves and recognize the need to unite behind Black and Latino people.

Southside People's Community Survival Day Rally. Speakers [from left to right]: Marc Zalkln, Milwaukee ISC co-ordinator; Tim Kelly, Milwaukee Tenants Union; Ted Uribe, Esperanza Unida Industrial Program; Ronald Starks, co-ordinator of Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Panther Party.

The final speaker, Ronald Starks, Co-ordinator of the Milwaukee Chapter of the Black Panther Party, announced that the Free Busing to Prison Program sponsored by the Party would soon begin to carry people from the south-side community. He went on to voice the Party's desire to meet the people's needs regard-less of their color and asked those present to support the work of the ISC on Milwaukee's southside!

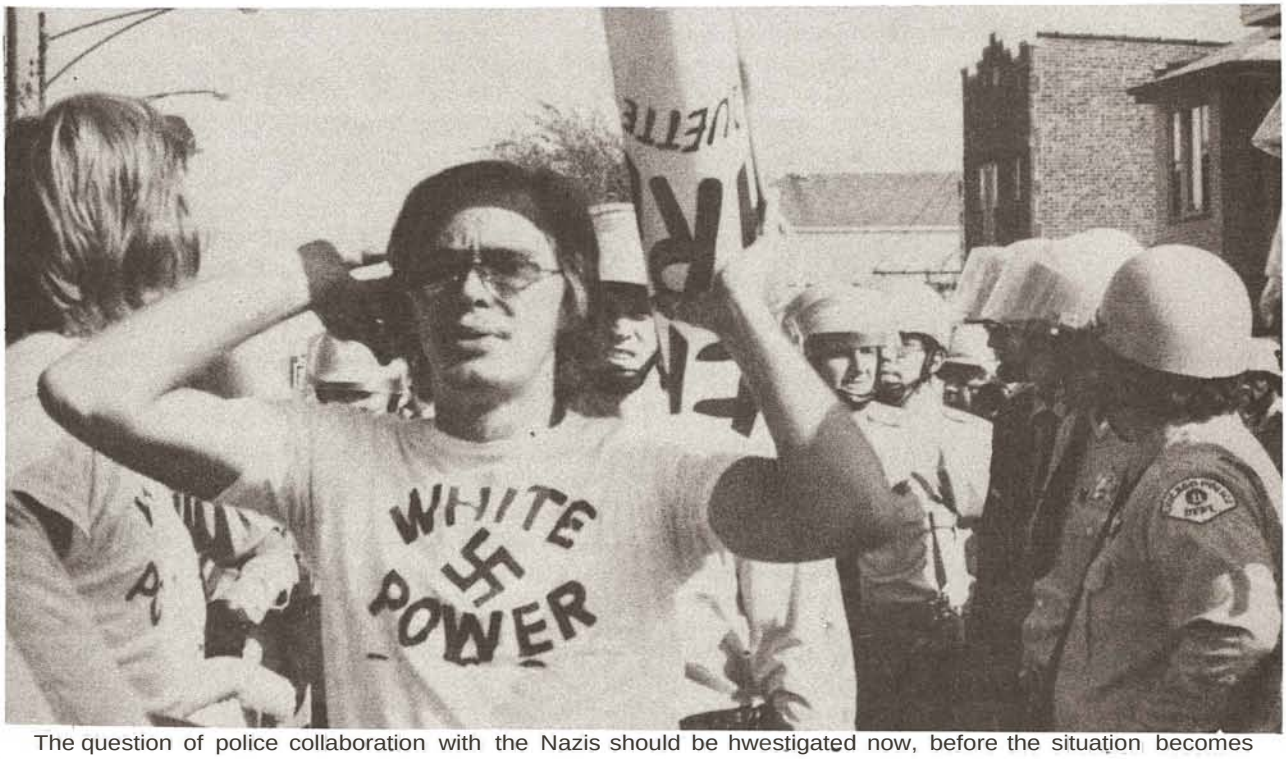
The New Nazis: Joke, Threat or Tool?

Frequent publicity over the last six months has been given to a very small group of men calling themselves the "National Socialist Party of America" or the "White Power Party." The group dresses in clothes that attempt to look like the old German Nazi uniforms, worships countless pictures of Adolph Hitler and claims to be a paramilitary outfit. An extremely peaceful police raid some years ago did in fact turn up a mini-arsenal of guns, ammunition and explosives at their office at 2519 W. 71st St. in Marquette Park. Accurate research on the group reveals that they number only 30 to 40 at most, and between publicity stunts seem to fade into obscurity.

The Nazis gained their latest notoriety by joining in the crowds of confused whites who attacked marchers demanding open housing in Marquette Park. They run several hotline numbers which you can call and hear messages like, "Fight for the white race; defeat the Jews and the niggers," on a tape recorder any time 24 hours a day. In 1975 they ran in three southwest side wards in the aldermanic elections and barely got enough votes to be counted seriously.

The most interesting thing about the Nazis: according to some observers, is who their friends are. Last summer at least one Chicago police officer was observed among them throwing rocks at marching Black demonstrators. When it was brought to light, the officer was suspended. But a recent incident in the Uptown community may cause further questions to be asked.

On the third Friday of last month, fighting broke out between a group of Blacks and a



The question of police collaboration with the Nazis should be hwestigated now, before the situation becomes more serious.

The Nazis could spark serious racial violence In these situations where the city polley of urban renewal has driven Blacks and Latinos into already overcrowded, previously all-white neighborhoods.

groups of whites, late in the afternoon. It is not clear how the conflict started, but some say a Black driver had run over a six pack of beer belonging to the whites, and the whites responded with some angry words. The driver returned with some other men, all Black, to "straighten them out." What ensued was some street fighting. Some fought and some ran and some followed. A shot was fired, and the police came.

When the police came the Blacks were on one side of the street, the whites on the other. The police went immediately to the whites, beat them and arrested several. The young whites were joined by several older whites in asking why the police did not arrest any of the Black people involved in the incident; in fact, did not even speak to them.

Observers on this street in Uptown point out that "There is little love lost between 23rd district police and the young Black men and women who live here." As a result the failure of the police to even acknowledge their existence seemed odd.

The officers on the scene reportedly replied to questions from the whites that "If we touch a hair on those niggers' heads, we will have a dozen organizations down on us," and "It is easier for us to kill a white man than to arrest one of them, because they have organizations."

Early the next morning, members of the Nazi Party appeared on the street, in full dress uniform. They went door to door distributing racist literature and handing out free "white power" T-shirts. They managed to get a few young whites to go back with them to their offices to "see what it was all about."

The message the Nazis brought, complementing conveniently the message of the police the night before was, "White people need to have their own organizations, and we are it."

Most of those who go to the Marquette Park office quickly see through the group. In the words of one brother, "These people are crazy. They are sick. They walk around holding on to their forty-fives and worshipping pictures of Adolph Hitler. They are really nuts." The "Party" leader, Frank Collin, who is 31 and the son of a Jewish owner of a drapery firm, is pitifully torn by self-hatred and self-confusion. He seems only to be gratified by publicity.

On the other hand, the Nazis could serve as a spark to create serious racial violence in tense situations where the city policy of urban renewal has driven Blacks or Latinos into already overcrowded, previously all-white neighborhoods. The question of police collaboration with such a group, according to many residents in Uptown, should be investigated now, before the situation becomes more serious. 0

BLA Regional Director Joins Well-Attended CASLA Meeting

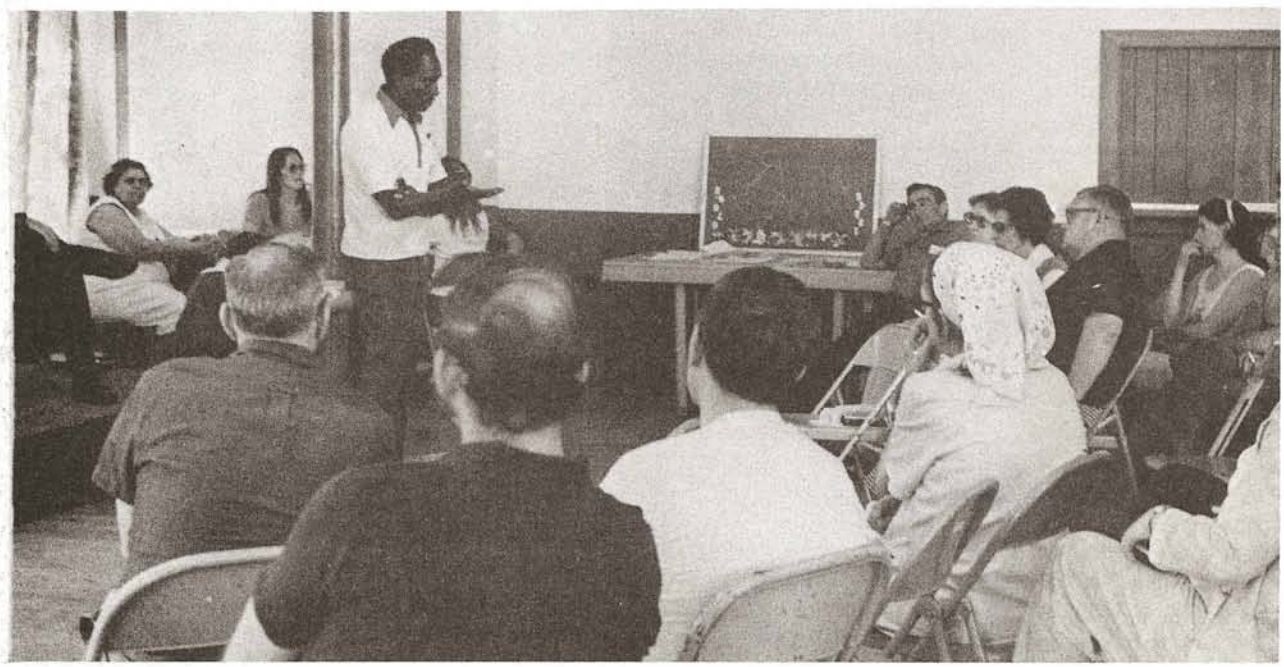
*Senate Delays Vote on Critical Black Lung Legislation

"The real issue is preventative health care. We have believed this since 1969 *when, for the first time that I know of, poor people wrote a law of their own. Doctors told us that the dust in the mines was making us walking dead men, and we decided to do something about it."*

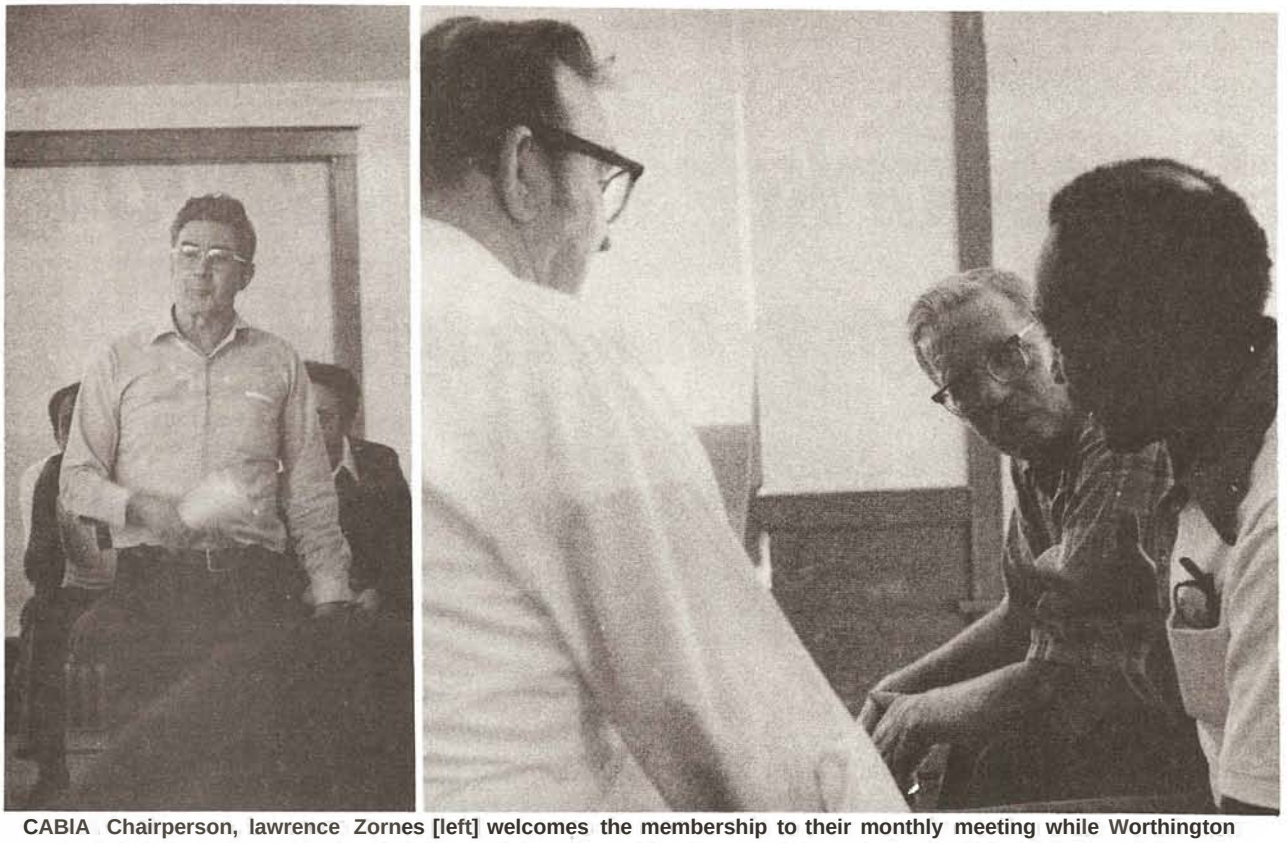
Bill Worthington, Regional Chairman of the Black Lung Associations

The struggle for black lung legislation has represented a courageous struggle for justice waged by coal miners who have been forced over the years to endure some of the gravest hardships created by any of this country's industries. Miners have risked their lives every day and sacrificed their health to keep the wheels of industry and technology turning.

On September 12, 1976, Bill Worthington, regional chairman of the Black Lung Associations addressed a well-attended meeting of the Chicago Area Black Lung Association (CABLA). Attacking the complicated issues of job safety and health, he provided CABLA's membership with vital insight into the black lung struggle. He described how many coal miners and a handful of dedicated coal field doctors like Dr. Rasmussen in West Virginia have worked to gain an understanding of the deadly disease and occupational hazard. Worthington emphasized that from the start the demand for black lung benefits has been part of an overall vision and movement for adequate health care in the coal fields under people's control and for safer and healthier work conditions. The development of



Bill Worthington, addressing a well-attended CABLA meeting, emphasized that from the start the demand for black lung benefits has been part of an overall vision and movement for safer and healthier conditions.



CABIA Chairperson, lawrence Zornes [left] welcomes the membership to their monthly meeting while Worthington [right] pledges that the regional BIA would do all it could to help black lung victims in Chicago obtain justice.

the BLA's, he pointed out, has also been closely linked with the struggle of coal mine workers for democratic control of their union.

Along with CABLA members, Worthington investigated the apparent patterns of delay, deliberate confusion and prejudicial treatment received in the Chicago area from the Social Security Administration and the Department of Labor. Noting that such tactics are not as pervasive in Appalachia where strong BLA's hilve existed for some time, Worthington pledged that the regional BLA would do all that it could to help black lung victims in Chicago obtain justice. All present agreed that the federal bureaucracy is bent on tying up as many cases as possible while awaiting the 1981 cut-off date for black lung benefits, a provision of the current law.

A new, more progressive black lung law pending before Congress this year has been recently postponed, as the Senate adjourned early this month without voting on it. Among the many improvements in the law demanded by BLA's and the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) are an end to the 1981 cut-off date pending accurate and concrete evidence that incidence of black lung has been seriously reduced; reasonable rules of evidence for widows' claims; restrictions on the use of government-contracted "B-readers" who have been found to reread almost all X rays as negative; abandonment of current strict and unrealistic medical standards; and a provision that no claim be denied without the use of every existing safe diagnostic test.

Also included in the House bill, as a result of intensive efforts on the part of Black Lung Associations, is a provision for an automatic presumption of eligibility for anyone with 25 years or more in the mines. Studies show that a great majority of coal miners will have black lung after just ten years in the mines, so miners feel this is a modest demand. Also, many point out, the endless battle of experts over X rays is costly and diverts doctors and lawyers from dealing with solutions to problems facing coal miners.

Observers have pointed out that the Senate's delay on voting on the black lung bill may be the result of a well-financed lobbying effort by coal operators. Fearing that had the bill been passed by Congress, Ford would have been hesitant to veto it and risk a nationwide coal strike on the eve of an election, many say that the coal operators' intentions are to obstruct any attempt by coal miners to change the guidelines for eligibility for black lung before the 1981 cut-off date.D

Steelworkers' Sadlowski:

Tough Enough to Make a Difference P

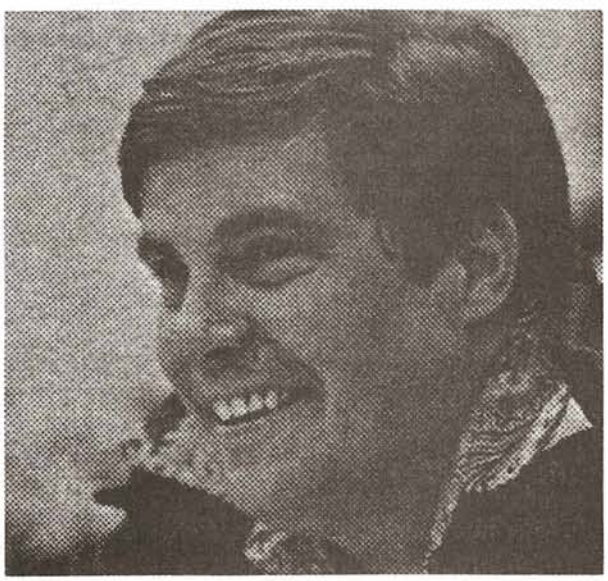
On September 13, Ed Sadlowski became a candidate for International President of his 1.4 million member union, which represents the majority of workers in key industries like basic steelworking, metal mining and metal container manufacturing.

Sadlowski says he is running because "the old line union politicians have proven they are out of touch with the membership and cannot deliver what is needed. Their approach-that what's good for the companies is good for the workers, that union leaders can be comfortable partners with top corporate management-simply doesn't work."

Running through everything Sadlowski says is his concern for union democracy. In basic 'steel, contracts negotiated by top union officials are not submitted to the membership for approval or rejection. Sadlowski believes that *every* agreement, large or small, that governs the payor working conditions of steelworkers must be approved by them.

For example, the union bureaucracy has negotiated a number of productivity agreements with the Steel Barons. In the ten years of I.W. Abel's presidency, 275,000 jobs have been eliminated through speed-up and job combinations approved by the union leadership, not by the membership.

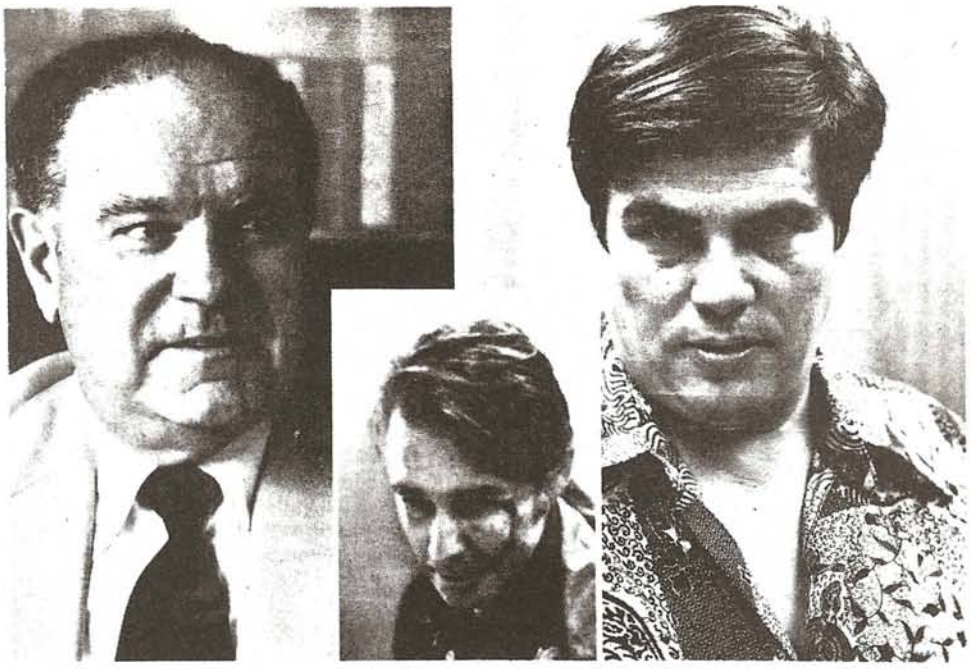
In addition, safety conditions in the mills are abominable, even though Abel pays lip service to the need for a healthy environment. . Steelworker death rates from job-related accidents and illnesses like cancer and emphysema are among the highest in the country. Abel justifies all this by pointing out that steelworkers (those still alive and employed) have among the best pay, pensions and insurance plans of all industrial workers. Sadlowski, on the other hand, argues that full employment and good health need not be sacrificed for adequate pay.



When questioned at recent steelworker meetings, Sadlowski firmly supported equal rights in general terms, but problems of discrimination are not mentioned in his campaign literature, and he has not put forward a specific, national program for the rights of Blacks, Latinos or women.

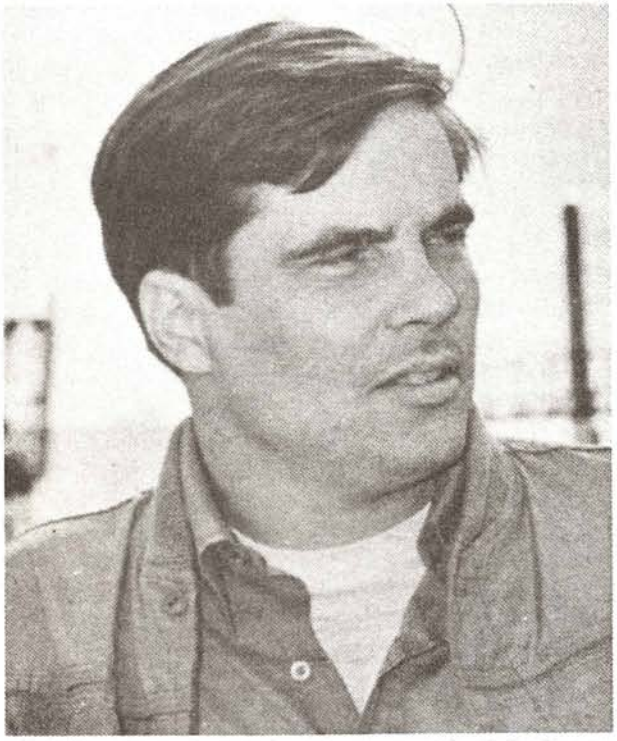
Then there is perhaps the biggest sell-out of all-the Experimental Negotiating Agreement. . The ENA-loudly praised by big business, bitterly condemned by politically conscious steelworkers-commits the union not to strike basic steel on nationwide issues at least until 1980. The ENA was negotiated behind closed doors and hurriedly approved by a union convention dominated by Abel and his staff. The rank and file never voted for it, nor has their opinion been asked.

At meetings of supporters and those who come to hear about his candidacy, Sadlowski comes across as a man of the people. He went to work 20



Sadlowski [far right] and volunteer rank and filers who agree with his message are taking their case directly to the steel mills, factories and towns around the country. They don't have access to the money, resources and union patronage available to the McBride [left] forces. Center-Sadlowski supporter roughed up at recent union convention.

years ago at the age of 18 in the mills of South Chicago, like his father before him. He speaks with assurance about his ideas, in the language of the common man and woman. He talks patiently about issues and answers questions for hours; there is not a trace of arrogance or self-importance in the way he communicates with other steelworkers.



"Steel profits are up, prices are up, productivity is up; why not jobs and living standards?" Sadlowski says he will fight immediately for a stronger health and safety clause.

The Abel machine is already on the attack. This summer in Houston, Texas, a Sadlowski supporter was shot through the neck by a local goon while passing out literature at a plant gate. Union propaganda is trying to portray Sadlowski as a tool of "outside" left-wing groups.

It is disturbing that these attacks seem to have caused Sadlowski to pull in his horns on some key issues. For example, the Abel bureaucracy has long given implicit approval to racist hiring and seniority practices that have condemned Black and Latino workers to few jobs and those few in the hottest, dirtiest and lowest paying departments. Only a barrage of job actions and lawsuits by angry minority workers forced Abel to move at all.

Under Sadlowski's leadership, District 31 passed several resolutions dealing specifically with the problems of Black and Latino workers. When questioned at recent steelworker meetings, Sadlowski still firmly supports equal rights in general terms, but problems of discrimination are not mentioned in his campaign literature, and he has not put forward a specific national program for the rights of Blacks, Latinos or women.

Sadlowski's candidacy is causing a great stir among rank and file steelworkers and among the captains of industry and government as well. If he stands firm on the issues in the face of opposition, his election could be an important step forward for working and poor people everywhere.D

Auto Workers Question Strike Leadership

On September 15 the United Auto Workers struck the Ford Motor Company shutting down 102 Ford plants in 22 states while collective bargaining continues. Ford has been selected as a target company, and the agreement reached here will set the pattern for 600,000 auto workers at other companies in the U.S. and Canada. While union president Woodcock appears to be negotiating in the interest of all these workers, a closer look at the 5,000 worker Mahwah Ford plant outside of Newark raises serious questions about the leadership of the gi.ant union.

First of all, according to several workers at the plant, "It was actually no surprise that Ford was picked as a target. The game was played back and forth; they said they didn't know who was going to be the target-Ford, GM or Chrysler- but most workers knew automatically it would be Ford because that was the way things had always moved."

Second, the union began by disseminating "mostly negative information to the rank and file." For instance, it was said that the company was trying to take away vacation time, to take away the dental plan and to make the workers pay for all hospital benefits. "So you see from the atmosphere that came down, the feeling that came out was in terms of what the company wants to take away from you. Nothing was said about the union's proposals."

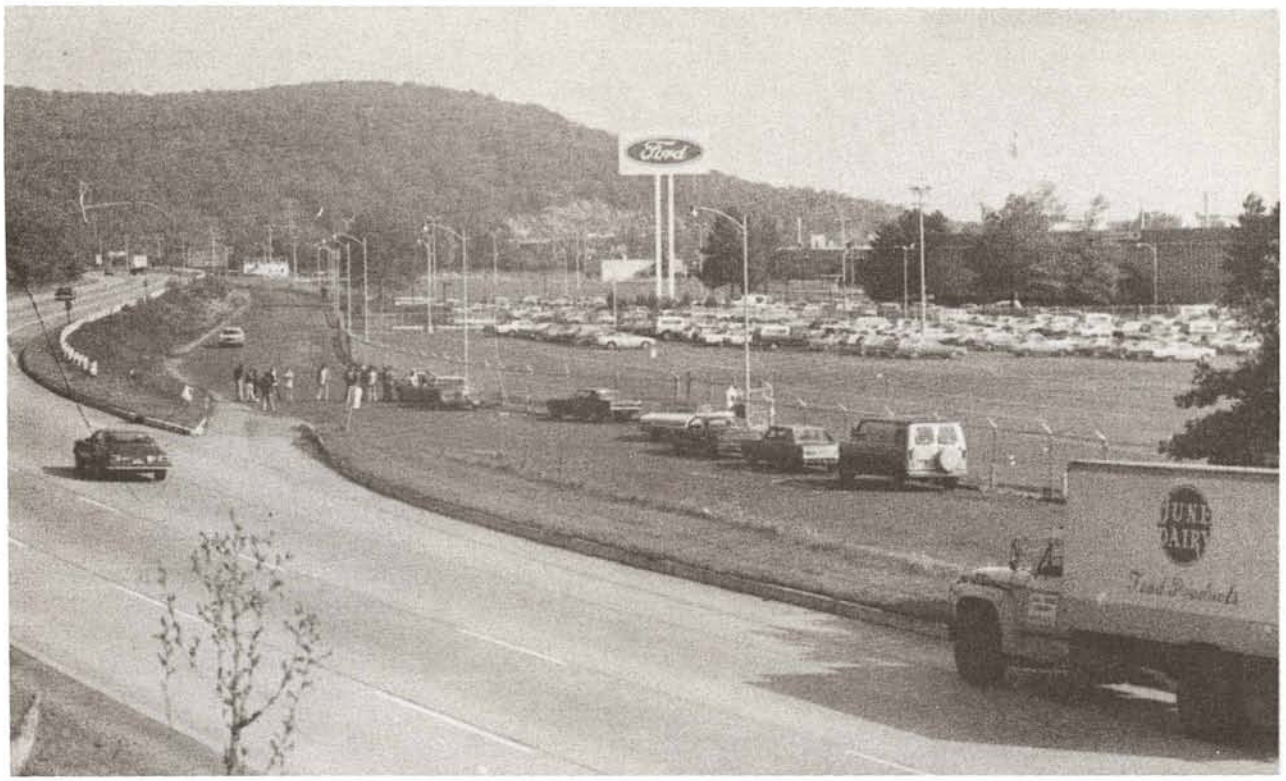
A major demand being made by the union is for one extra day off a month, *if* the worker works 20 consecutive days. The union leaders claimed that this would also help the "absentee problem" by creating an incentive and would force Ford to create 20,000 extra jobs. Many rank and filers wondered why it was the business of the union to solve "the absentee problem," and wanted the union instead to fight for a shorter work week-four days' work for five days' pay. This proposal, according to the workers, would create several hundred thousand new jobs and really help the unemployment situation in the country.

"Most of the workers feel that there is going to be a sellout on the contract," said one of the rank and filers." The picture that we have here is one of mass confusion, frustration and anger. We think that the union deliberately did not want to keep the workers well-informed. They want to keep them ignorant, keep them confused, running around in a circle; that way they can control them better and run the thing like they want to run it rather than being forced to deal with the people."

According to Mahwah workers there was "no preparation for a strike." The strike committee was not fully operational, signs weren't made, people didn't know where to go or what to do, except that they had to report to the union hall Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to sign up. No plans had been made to help with the survival problems of the striking workers and their families in an organized way.

While the International is negotiating with Ford Motor Company, local negotiations are also going on with the union local and the plant managers. These are very important because they deal with specific health and safety factors in the plant, with speed-ups and with other specific grievances. "The president did come down with a notice that we have reached a tentative agreement locally, yet we don't know what those local agreements are. It is always done this way for the simple fact that to vote on local issues separately from the national issue would mean defeat for a local issue." But the workers don't even know what the local agreement is!

In fighting for local issues, and to help bring in a good settlement on national issues, it is important to keep militant picket lines during the strike. But at Mahwah, the leadership of the union local appeared to try to keep the militancy



Ford knew far ahead of time that it would be the target company and was able to "stockpile" cars through speed-ups and "voluntary overtime," so that the strike does not seriously hurt the company. But it does hurt the workers.

down. It was a struggle to get the leadership to agree to 24 hour pickets. The few actions taken were discouraged by the local leadership, although they tried to "look militant" while doing so. It has even been a struggle, according to rank and filers, to get the more militant workers, especially Black workers, into positions on the picket line and in the strike in general.. At the local level the picture is one of the union "trying to keep down the militancy of the workers."

At the national level the workers feel part of the game was given away from the start. Ford knew far ahead of time that it would be the target company and was able to "stockpile" cars ahead of time through speed-ups and "voluntary overtime," so that the strike does not seriously hurt the company. But it does hurt the workers. "That shows the fallacy of the strategy of the international which we have been fighting for years," said one long time production line worker.

Another thing on the workers' minds is that Woodcock is tied to Carter and for a major strike to take place would "kick him out of his hope for getting a Secretary of Labor job.." Also, Woodcock is serving his last term because of the age limit, and the workers feel that he will not leave the door open for Ford to reject his offer in which case those individuals fighting to be the next president would use it as an opportunity to say, "Follow me now, I'm your champion, and you know I'm going to fight for you.." A contract rejection would also open the door for some rank and file members to make some major changes and reforms on "how they relate to different locals, the control they have over the locals.."

In the midst of all this the average worker doesn't know what to think. It seems he has to deal with the contract, local and national, with Woodcock wanting to be Secretary of Labor and with who is going to be the next president. The feeling that Woodcock will sell them out because he is more concerned with other things outside the increasingly grueling and unfair conditions in the plant is very strong.

One final example seems to sum up the disillusionment the workers have with the international leadership. When Carter came to Newark the local was ordered to send workers to turn out with picket lines supporting him. And while it had been a long struggle to get Black workers on the picket lines at the plant, because the leadership didn't want too much militancy, all of a sudden they wanted a lot of Black workers to turn out for Carter. The workers slTowed up with their signs, but when Carter came along, they let their signs rest on the ground, down with their faith in the leadership of the union.O

The Memory of Fred Hampton

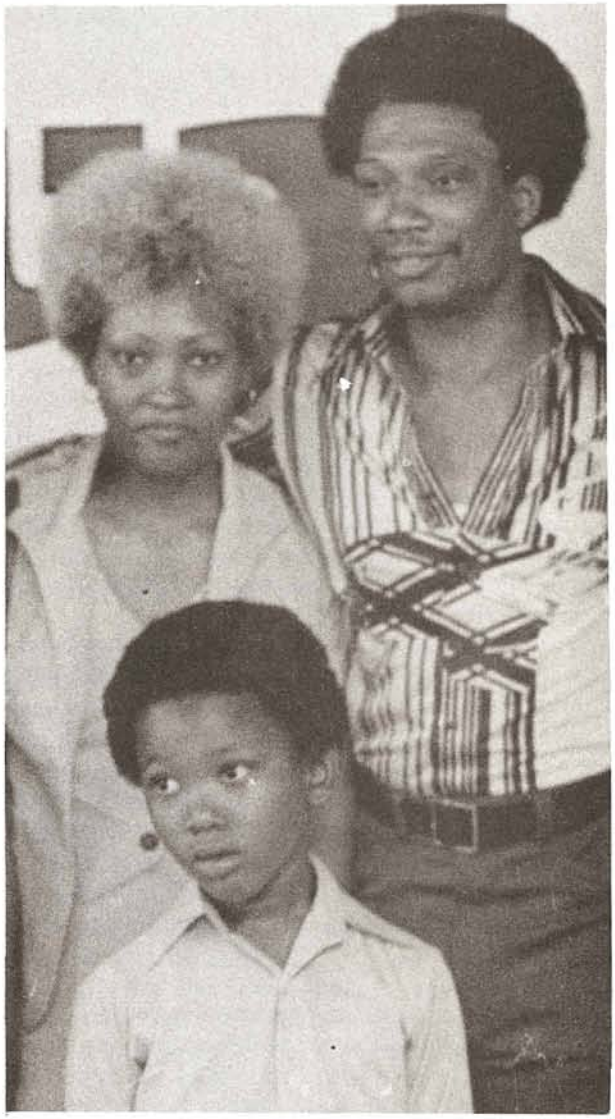
*Hampton-Clark Lawsuit Continues
*Fred Hampton Law School Opened

Testifying in the ninth complete month of the $47.7 million lawsuit on behalf of the families of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and the survivors of the December 4, 1969 raid, the last person to see the slain Black Panther Party leader still conscious told of the 4 a.m. police raid. Ms. Deborah Johnson was seven months pregnant that night with Fred Hampton, Jr. The tired deputy chairman, she testified, came into their bedroom and lay down on the bed around 2 a.m. They placed a call to his mother and sister in Maywood. During the lengthy conversation Fred fell off to sleep. She picked up the phone, and Fred turned over and went to sleep for the night, for the last time.

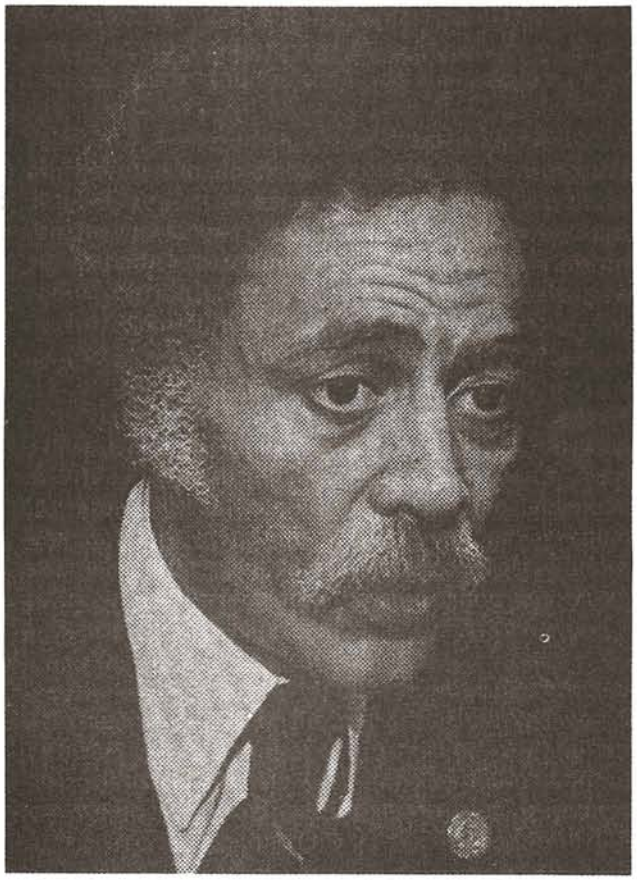
Ms. Johnson testified that she attempted to wake Fred one more time, but was unsuccessful. Then she went to sleep herself. She was awakened several hours later. A Party member was crouched at the head of the bed, trying to wake Fred up. He did not respond. She saw "sparking" through the open doorway and heard continuous shooting. Unable to wake Hampton, she crossed over his sleeping body. The bed vibrated with the continuous fire.

Louis Trulock called out, "Stop shooting. We have a pregnant sister in here." The shooting continued. Trulock shouted, "Weare coming out!" Deborah crossed over the body of Fred Hampton to get out of bed. There was no blood on his face, no wound showing anywhere. As she stood up and walked out of the room, followed closely behind by Trulock, she heard more shots coming into the room. She thought they were aimed at her. They were not.

Insulted and assaulted by the police officers, she was hustled into the kitchen. She watched as all the other occupants of the apartment, many



Ms. Deborah Johnson who was seven months pregnant with Fred Hampton, Jr. on December 4, 1969, testified that there was no blood on Fred's face and no wound showing anywhere when she crossed over his sleeping body and got out of bed.



Congressman Ron Dellums [right), keynote speaker at the fundraising dinner held by the National Conference of Black Lawyers for the Fred Hampton School of Law. The school, named after Fred Hampton [left), is the first law school established solely for Black and poor people.

wounded and bleeding, were brought into the kitchen and thrown on the floor, except Mark Clark, who lay dead in the living room. Then she heard more firing and the words, "He'll barely make it. He's barely alive." Then there was more shooting from the bedroom, and she heard the words, "He's good and dead now."

Ms. Johnson's testimony seemed to deeply affect the jury as they looked from the witness stand to the mother, sister and young son of brother Fred Hampton sitting bravely in the front of the courtroom. Her testimony further substantiates the suit claim that Fred, who was a light sleeper, was drugged and then assassinated in a cold and calculated manner by Hanrahan's raiding squad. Earlier testimony has shown conclusively the long and complicated maneuverings of the FBI COINTELPRO operatives in initiating the raid that ended in the assassination.

SEVEN YEARS LATER

Seven years later, only a few days before Deborah Johnson testified on the stand, the memory of the slain community leader was honored in the naming of the first law school established solely for Black and poor people, The Fred Hampton School of Law. The school, sponsored by the National Conference of Black Lawyers, held a fundraising dinner for six hundred Chicagoans. Keynote speaker Congressman Ron Dellums, praising the new school and referring emotionally to the courage of Fred Hampton, spoke for nearly forty-five minutes on the crisis facing this country. The brilliant California Congressman condemned those so-called national leaders who had failed to raise the basic issues of housing, employment, and medical care and education for poor and oppressed people at the Democratic Convention, preferring to trade their unquestioning support for a job in the Carter administration.

The Fred Hampton School of Law, located on the southside of Chicago, has already enrolled 51 students and is dedicated to producing lawyers that will serve the needs of the Black and poor communities. In honoring the name and the dedication of Fred Hampton, it becomes even more evident that his vision, intensity of struggle and sacrifice continue long years after his murder.O

THE BLACK PANTHER

INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

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25¢

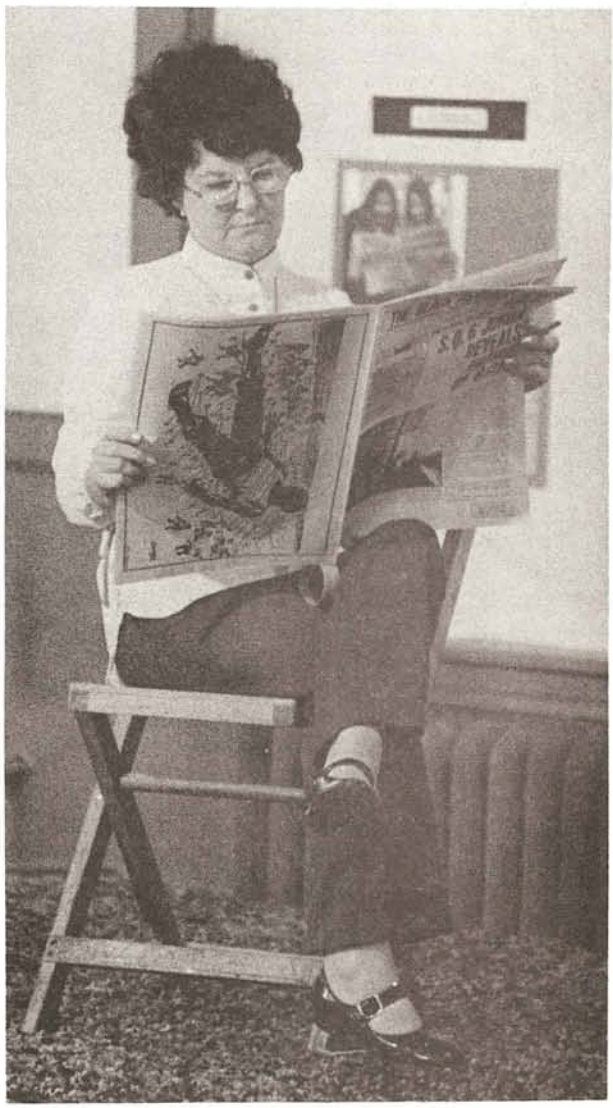
The Intercommunal Survival Committee, publishers of **KEEP STRONG,** have been selling **THE BLACK PANTHER,** primarily to white people, for over 6 years now. Thousands are sold on the street, thousands more are delivered regularly to home subscribers. Articles from **THE BLACK PANTHER** are also frequently reprinted in **KEEP STRONG.** The many regular readers among poor and progressive whites is testimony only to the relevance of this fine weekly paper to all oppressed people.

Of all the many contradictions and confusions that divide poor and oppressed people, racism is probably the most vicious and most destructive to unity and power. So much of the society we live in is shaped by the way it oppresses Black and Third World people, that to understand our own situation as white8, it is necessary also to understand the situation of Black people.

The Intercommunal Survival Committee also believes that the concrete example of the Black Panther Party, the methods of successful struggle, the implementation of many survival programs serving the community, are models from which we can learn in defending ourselves, our families and our own communities from those who would use and abuse us for their own profit..

We strongly encourage you to subscribe to **THE BLACK PANTHER INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE.** Education is the first step to liberation.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE



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NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Johnny Spain Suffers Brunt *0/ Compromise* Jury *Decision*

Last month, after the longest trial in the history of California and the longest jury deliberation, Black Panther Party member Johnny Larry Spain suffered the brunt of a compromise jury decision in the renowned San Quentin 6 trial. The jury's split decision set three of the six Black and Brown brothers free almost immediately. The remaining three, David Johnson, Hugo Pinell and Johnny Spain were found guilty on questionable counts. In a mockery of justice and well in advance of sentencing, Johnny Spain was "sentenced" by prison officials at San Quentin to 22 years in the institution's infamous and beastly adjustment center.

Although Johnny's prominent and dedicated attorney Charles Garry has uncovered evidence and received an interview from one of the jurors proving her intense hatred of the Black Panther Party as well as inconsistencies in her true beliefs and those she told the court during jury selection, it is likely that he will have to wait some time before his appeal for a new trial is granted.

Following sentencing the last week of September, when Johnny Spain received two life term sentences, Hugo Pinell one life term sentence and David Johnson a suspended sentence (making him immediately eligible for parole) Johnny Spain released the statement printed below.

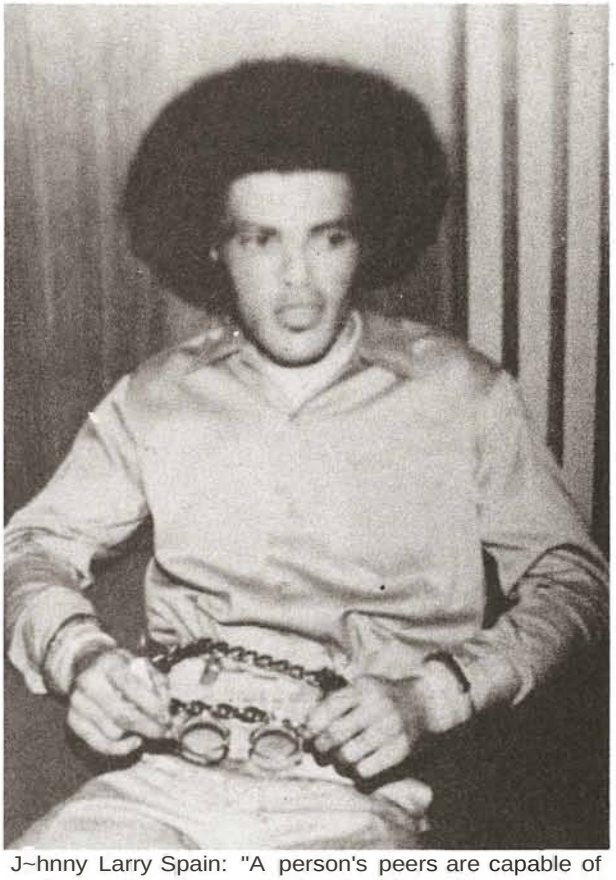
"In all of history no other animal has been chained down the way that I'm chained today, the way I've been chained for the last five years. I was chained like this the duration of the trial..

"This was a jury trial - and yet, for 17 months I was forced to strain, contorted in my effort, to turn and look at my peers through a warped barrier. A jury of one's peers, that is an important concept because a person's peers are capable of understanding his life.

"The jury in this trial were not my peers. When you speak of my peers you'll have to talk a whole lot about people who have a history of slavery, who have been robbed of nearly all in life - and sometimes of life. You'll have to show me the people who have had their heads bashed, their ribs kicked, their faces and lives stomped for merely wanting to live.

"My peers are those who've been deprived of jobs, clothing, housing - the people who, most of their lives, have been hungry and cold and without.. I'm talking about people who have been lied on, hated and hung and attacked by civilized dogs -- despite their prayers and pleas to god. You'll have to tell me about the people who have been sent to prisons, graveyards, and more than a few times to madness by rules and laws that they never had a voice in creating; rules and laws that weren't created to serve their interests.

"You'll have to tell me about the people who have been plotted against and assassinated like comrade George Jackson and Dr. Martin Luther King, and the people who were given programs such as COINTELPRO, which was initiated by the FBI in an attempt to destroy the Black Panther Party. COINTELPRO is still functioning



J~hnny Larry Spain: "A person's peers are capable of understanding his life; the jury in this case were not my peers."

Although Johnny's prominent and dedicated attorney Charles Garry has uncovered evidence of one of the juror's intense hatred of the Black Panther Party, of which Johnny is a member, it is likely that he will have to wait a long time for any justice.

because it has given some of my peers the option of being railroaded into prison on bum charges, or going into exile like comrade Huey Newton.

"My peers are sneered at for being on welfare. My peers are workers who are barely making it - but who pay more taxes than Nelson Rockefeller. The most consequential of my peers, those who you and this society never consider, but who are the most advanced lot of people on earth, are the children - the future. The jury in this trial were not my peers.

"And with that in mind, I would have to say: if the goal was the administering of justice, and theoretically trials are supposed to represent a means by which justice is arrived at when issues are at variance, this trial fell far short of achieving it.

"There was an elaborate display of formality by the state during this trial - all of which was designed to conceal the truth about the assassination of comrade George Jackson. You can sell half truths and lies to middle and upper class people because their entire lives have been filled with nothing else, but formality to me means tradition, and I have as much respect for tradition as it has had for me: none.

"Traditions amount to ossified values, paper statues with which civilized madmen all throughout history have wiped their rears and proffered these traditions to the world as the ultimate standards of life - per adventure, as life itself.

"There are men on this earth today, more sophisticated, more civilized, but madmen none the less, who attempt to shove the ill old values of tradition down our throats. I submit this: jagged rocks would do our rear ends less harm, and for my part I want the historical scroll to be clear - I reject this insane tradition, this idiocy and this sameness which stands in contradiction to life, because life is necessarily in a constant state of movement, of change and, therefore, of becoming.

"I have all of history to support my position, and with a weapon of historical evidence I have all the future standing with me - the children - to resist what we as people are no longer willing to tolerate. This trial will not stop us; we are going to become."

And then, especially addressing the court, Johnny Spain quoted from the writings of George Jackson: liThe strong can afford to be incompetent or wrong sometimes without loss of face. Even the mightiest and most capable of men are only human. But he who attributes to himself omnipotence must never be wrong. For once a weakness is found, no matter how small, in one who claims omnipotence he is completely exposed. The fall from omnipotence ends only with insignificance." D

Chavez Pledges "People's Campaign" To *Support Prop. 14*

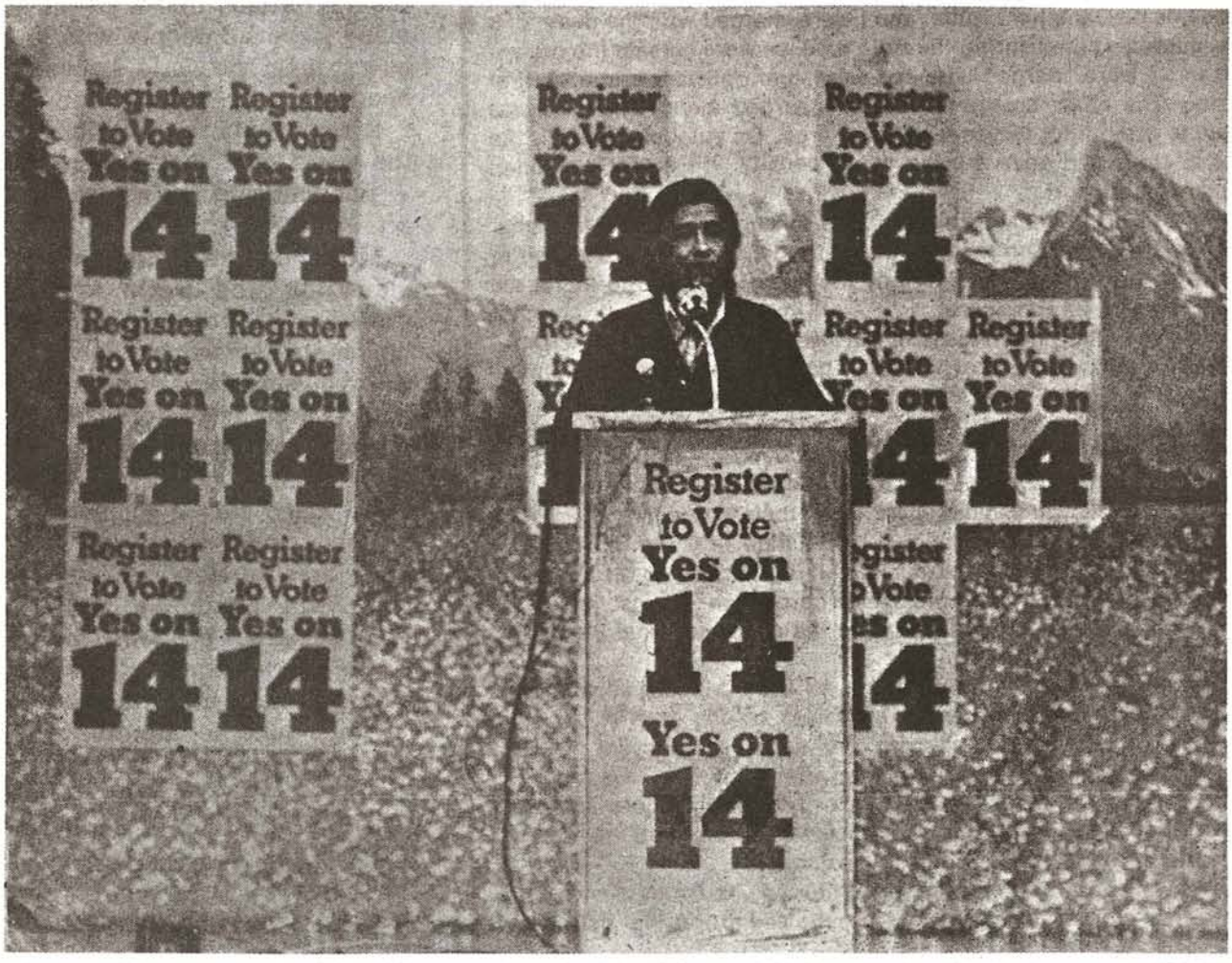
(Oakland, CaliL) - Speaking before an enthusiastic audience of close to 1,000 at St.. Elizabeth's Church here, Cesar Chavez, president of the United Farm Workers (UFW) of America, AFL-CIO, pledged to mount a statewide "people's campaign" ... person to person, mouth to mouth" to suppport a "Yes" vote on Proposition 14, the long fought for agricultural labor initiative on the November 2 ballot..

"The only real issue around Proposition 14," Chavez told the packed-in, multi-ethnic crowd, "is that with its passage, farm workers will have a right, a guaranteed right, to determine by themselves whether or not they want a union, and if they want a union, which union.

That is the central issue of Proposition 14: guaranteeing the workers' rights to self-organization. Basically, it's this: do farm workers have the right to vote? There is nothing more critical or important than that issue."

In addition to gathering support and recruiting volunteers to work in the community, "Yes on 14" organizers are actively mobilizing voter registration efforts and are planning a major "get-out-the-vote drive" for election day, November 2.

Chavez warned that supporters of Proposition 14 faced "tremendous opposition." He said: "The growers are going to attempt to make a phony issue. They have $2.5 million devoted for the mass media to try to confuse the voters. In order to get a 'Yes' vote, we have to educate people. In order to get a 'No' vote, the growers have to confuse the voters, and they've got that



In one of the most successful petition campaigns in state history - 730,000 signatures in 29 days - the UFW qualified Proposition 14 for the November ballot.

$2.5 million to go to the mass media and try to get people to believe that if Prop. 14 passes, somehow all of you are going to lose your property rights. That is a phony issue that has nothing to do with Prop. 14."

Essentially, Propositon 14 was created in response to the successful efforts by agribusiness powers to sabotage California's precedent-setting Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975, a far-reaching compromise legislation achieved through the personal mediating efforts of Governor Jerry Brown and his staff.

Under this act, state agricultural workers received the right to select and join unions of their own choosing for the purpose of collective bargaining, and to participate in lawful union activities. A five-member Board was given the task of establishing the rules and regulations for implementing the union election process, while a general counsel was empowered to take legal action against unions and employers who engage in unfair labor practices.

Finally, given this semblance of free choice, farm workers throughout the state flocked to the ranks of the UFW, with the Chavez forces winning over 75 per cent of all elections held. Then, in February of this year, the Board ran out of money and the state legislature, influenced by combined grower-Teamster pressure, refused to allocate any more funds for the remainder of the 1975-76 fiscal year. In response, the UFW drafted Proposition 14, and in one of the most successful petition campaigns in state history-730,000 signatures in 29 days-qualified the measure for the November ballot..

Proposition 14 will stabilize labor relations and protect workers' rights," Chavez argued. "You see, what's happening is that we have a law, but we don't have any money. The workers have rights, but no opportunity to exercise these rights. When the Board ran out of money, the law stayed on the books, but because there were no funds, ballots were not printed, elections were not held.

Concluding his half-hour, bilingual address on a note of confidence, Chavez remarked that to counteract the $2.5 million growers' media conspiracy, "The only way to win is to have a people's campaign. We have to go out into the street, knock on doors, and talk to people because we don't have the money to do what they're doing. But we've got other resources; we've got the people. "We got you who are going to help us to give the message, person-to-person, mouth-to-

mouth. If we do that, I'm sure we're going to win."

Meanwhile, activities supporting the struggle around the voters' initiative have been planned across the country. In Chicago, on October 10, the "Black Eagle Solidarity Dinner" will be held at the Keyman's Club, 4721 W. Madison. For more information about this important United Farm Workers Benefit call their local office at (312) 939-5120 .

Excerpted from *The Black Panther*

Challenge To *Rizzo Stopped By High* Court

(Philadelphia, Pa.) The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has ruled that a move to oust Mayor Frank L. Rizzo from office is unconstitutional and that he does not have to face a special recall election in November. The court decision reversed a ruling by Common Pleas Court Judge David N. Savitt, who had ordered that the question, "Shall Frank L. Rizzo be recalled and removed from the office of Mayor of Philadelphia?" be placed on the November 2 election ballot.. Last June the Citizens' Committee to Recall Rizzo submitted petitions with 211,190 signatures supporting the question for the November election.

Rizzo's management of this city has put 20 percent of its residents on welfare or food stamps and has added 300,000 to the unemployment lines. Philadelphia has a $100 million budget deficit caused by Rizzo's patronage of political allies with high-paying jobs and his willingness to accept financial policies dictated by the city's finance and business community.D

INTERCOMMUNAL PERSPECTIVE

U.N. Committee Delays Vote On *P.R. Independence*

(United Nations, N.Y.) - The U.S. has succeeded in forcing postponement for another year of U.N. consideration of the colonial status of Puerto Rico. The decision to put off the Puerto Rican question was made by "a consensus" of the U.N.'s Decolonization Committee and th us avoided a potential embarrassment for Washington during an election year. The move also gave the U.S. additional time to promote its phony "Compact of Permanent Union" with which it hopes to forestall growing international denunciation of its domination of the island.

Juan Mari Bras, general secretary of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party.

At the same time, the Decolonization Committee reaffirmed the right of the Puerto Rican people to "independence and self-determination," rejecting the U.S. view that the status of Puerto Rico is not a matter falling within the jurisdiction of the U.N.

During the three days of discussion on Puerto Rico, the delegates heard a wide number of Puerto Rican witnesses oppose U.S. colonial domination of their country. Juan Mari Bras, general secretary of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), analyzed U.S. economic, military and cultural penetration as well as the political control exercised by Congress.

The PSP leader also discussed the assassination of his son five months ago, saying that repression in Puerto Rico had "unexpected levels" and that the assassination had been "inspired and guided by North American imperialist intelligence." The stepped-up repression, said Mari Bras, is U.S. imperialism's response to the great advances made this year by the Puerto Rican independence movement internationally and in the U.S.

Ruben Berrios, president of the Puerto Rican Independence Party and a member of the island's Senate, warned that the U.S. was working hard to have the discussion postponed and urged the members not to accede to Washington's pressure. Also testifying from Puerto Rico were Eneida Vasquez, president of the Puerto Rican Peace Council, and Rev. Alfredo Santiago de Jesus, president of the United Evangelical Churches of Puerto Rico and Christians for Socialism.

For the first time the Decolonization Committee heard a representative of an independence support group from within the U.S. The witness was Arthur Kinoy of the Puerto Rican Solidarity Committee.

The position of Puerto Rico, Kinoy asserted, is "a flagrant disregard of the most elementary principles of international law ... To contend that this is an internal affair of the U.S. not subject to international scrutiny and remedy is blatantly to ignore the most elementary constitutional commandments of our governing documents, to say nothing of the U.S. obligation

under the (U.N.) Charter to respect the binding resolutions of the General Assembly."

Kinoy concluded by reading from a statement prepared for the Decolonization Committee by James Houghton, director of the Harlem Fightback organization:

"Black people in the U.S. are seeing every day that their national and racial oppression corresponds with the oppression of Black people in southern Africa and the people of Puerto Rico. They are seeing more clearly that we all have a common enemy in U.S. imperialism. For this reason, we totally support Puerto Rico's independence from U.S. colonial rule and view their struggle as an integral part of worldwide anti-imperialist struggle most sharply manifested today in southern Africa."O

Excerpted from *The Black Panther*

Five Leaders Say No On *Rhodesia*

Recently the western press has been ballyhooing Henry Kissinger's latest feat. It says that he has successfully worked out an agreement to bring Black majority rule to Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). *KEEP STRONG* has contacted North American representatives of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) who have a much different point of view.

By the early part of September members of the Zimbabwe People's Army, led by Robert Mugabe also the general-secretary of ZANU, operating from bases in Mozambique, had advanced on all fronts. They had succeeded in liberating about 60% of the country and had Salisbury surrounded on four sides. The rainy season was approaching, and ZANU, along with the entire people's army, was preparing for the final drive.

The worldwide economic boycott which had been imposed on the racist white minority regime in Rhodesia along with the sealing of the Mozambique border by the progressive government in Mozambique were beginning to have a severe affect of the economy of the country. The western powers of the United States, Great Britain, France, West Germany and South Africa were being forced to face up to the reality that the Ian Smith regime had lost the war to ZANU. The racist white minority regime in Rhodesia was doomed.

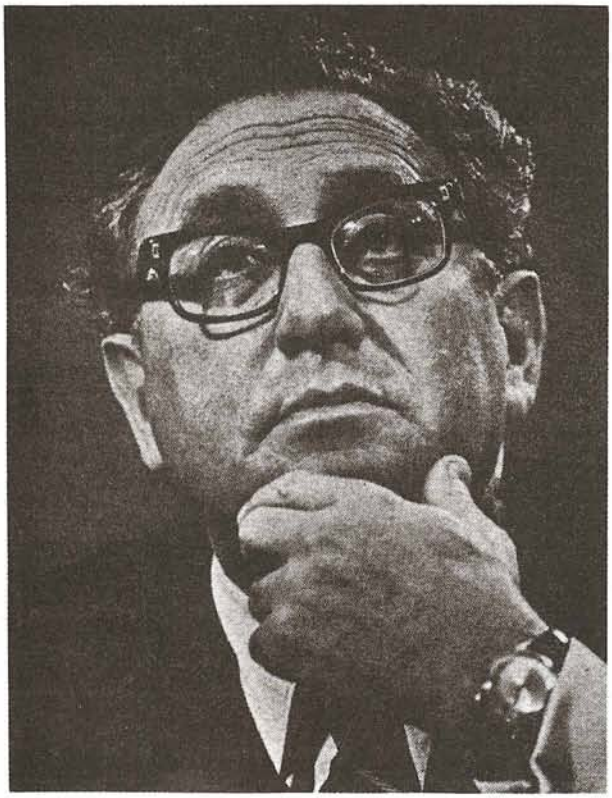
Henry Kissinger was then called to the scene. It was time for some high level diplomacy. His mission was, given the inevitability of Black majority rule in Zimbabwe, to protect U.S. interests and the interests of other western powers by making sure that any Blaek government would be one which they controlled. So the plan that Kissinger worked out calls for; 1) the appointment of a State Council and an Executive Council to make the transition to majority rule with the Executive Council to be controlled by a Black, probably someone like Joshua Nkomo, the known western puppet; 2) retain the Defense Ministry and the Internal Security Ministry in the hands of the whites until the transition to Black majority rule is completed, in order to give

Kissinger's great fear is that his plan to bring about Black majority rule in Rhodesia will not work. There can never be a real solution in Zimbabwe unless ZANU, the organization which truly represents the Black majority and which has been waging the armed struggle, is consulted.

the racists and imperialists the chance to suppress and effectively destroy ZANU; 3) an election of a Black government in two years. This is the same provision which was in the Geneva Accords on Vietnam. African leaders predict that the elections will either never happen or will be between two puppets who have sold out to the western interests like Joshua Nkomo and Abel Muzorewa who have both not only sold out to western interests, but have also participated in plots to destroy ZANU.

Kissinger's great feat is that his plan to bring about Black majority rule in Rhodesia will not work. There can never be a real solution in Zimbabwe unless ZANU, the organization which truly represents the Black majority and which has been waging the armed struggle, is consulted. It represents the interests of the Zimbabwean people, a group which Henry Kissinger consistently overlooks. Any solution in Zimbabwe must include the following conditions:

1. All ZANU leaders who are now imprisoned must be released so that they can be present at any negotiations about the future of Zimbabwe; 2. Ian Smith must declare a general amnesty and release all political prisoners now held in jails in Rhodesia; 3. Smith must release all Zimbabwe-



"The Zimbabwean people know that a regime backed by the likes of Henry Kissinger, will not just hand the country back to us unless we have brought them to their knees."

By early September, members of the Zimbabwe People's Army, led by Robert Mugabe also the general-secretary of ZANU had succeeded in liberating 60% of the country.

ans now imprisoned in "protected villages" (which are nothing more than concentration camps like the strategic hamlets used in Vietnam); 4. Smith must proclaim amnesty for all Zimbabwean nationalists now living abroad who have been waging armed struggle against the Smith regime; 5. The International Fund- rumored to be about $2 billion-which is earmarked to prop up white business in Rhodesia should be negotiated with Zimbabwean leaders so that it can be used to improve the lives of the majority of the Zimbabwean people; 6. ZANU should not be told or asked to give up the armed struggle until the people have seized total control of the country and all the racist and other imperialist vultures have been brought under control.. "The Zimbabwean people know that a regime backed by the likes of Henry Kissinger, which has oppressed and brutally murdered people and has been stripping the country in its own interests for hundreds of years, will not just hand the country back to us unless we have brought them to their knees."

The five front line presidents-Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Samora Machel of Mozambique, Seretse Khama of Botswana, Agostinho Neto of Angola and Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia pledged their unending support to the Zimbabwe People's Army and are committed to support the armed struggle, contrary to what has been reported in the western press. They have not wavered from their conclusion that it will only be through armed struggle that the African people will liberate their countries to benefit the people.D

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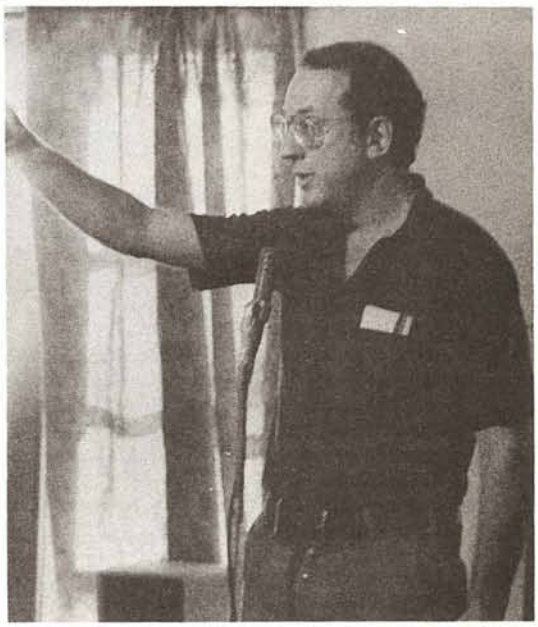
October 3 marked a new beginning for the Intercommunal Survival Committee's popular weekly Community Forums. Including presentations by community residents Helen Bowling and Florence Buchner, 46th Ward Service Center General Counsel James Chapman and 44th ward Alderman Dick Simpson, the afternoon's program on building-tenant problems was received with interest and enthusiasm.

Future forums will be held at 3 p.m. every Sunday afternoon at 1222 W. Wilson, at the 46th Ward Community Service Center's new community center. October's schedule includes "Schools in Our Community" - October 10; topic to be announced - October 17; Country Music Sunday and Community Raffle - October 24; and a Youth Halloween Party - October 31.0



Clockwise, from top left; Florence Buchner, Helen Bowling, attorney James Chapman. The afternoon's program on building-tenant problems was received with interest and enthusiasm.

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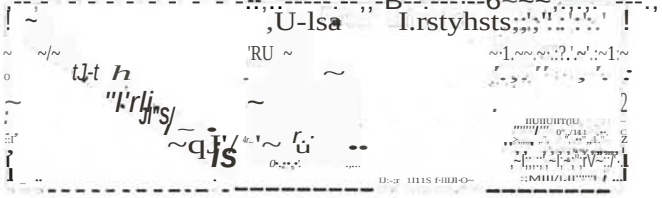

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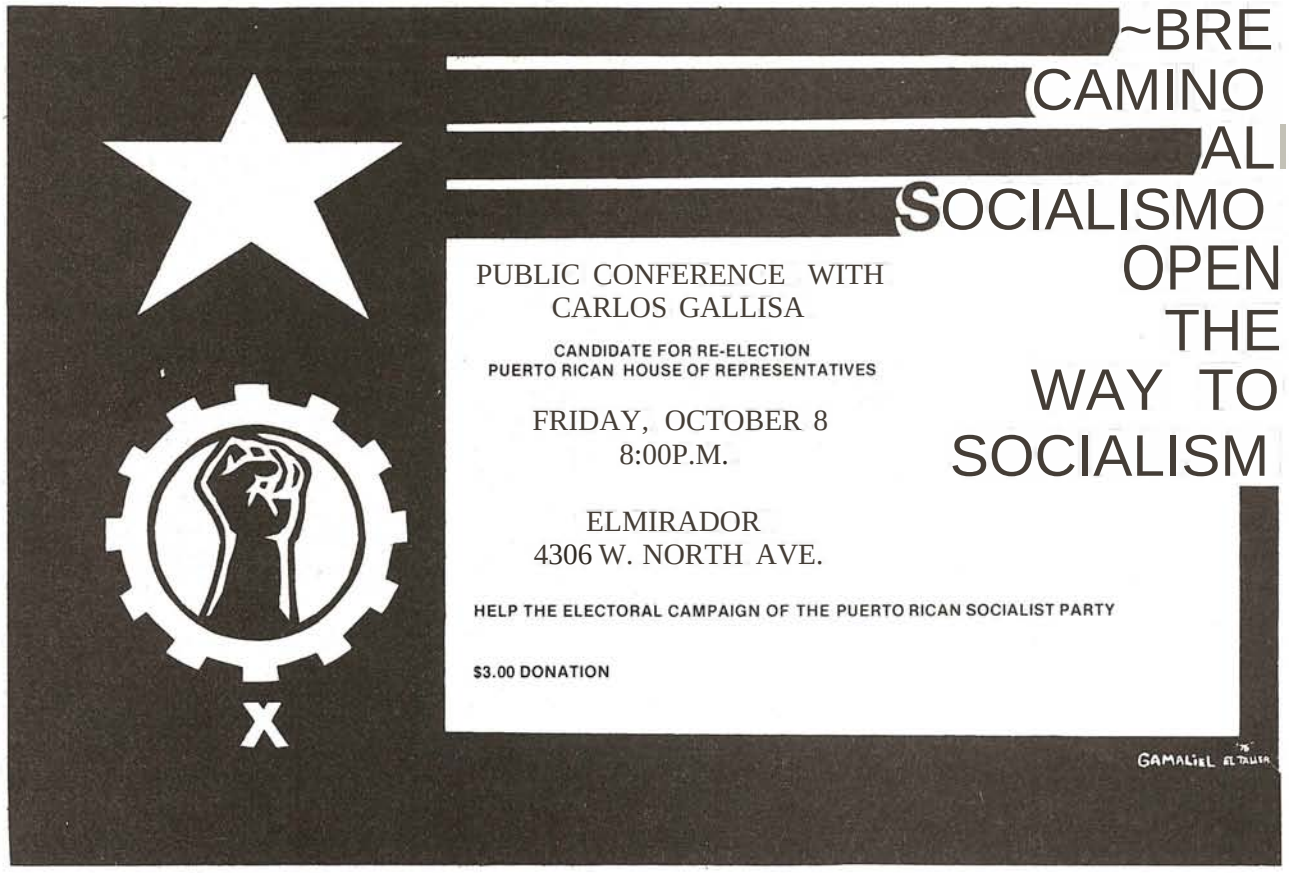

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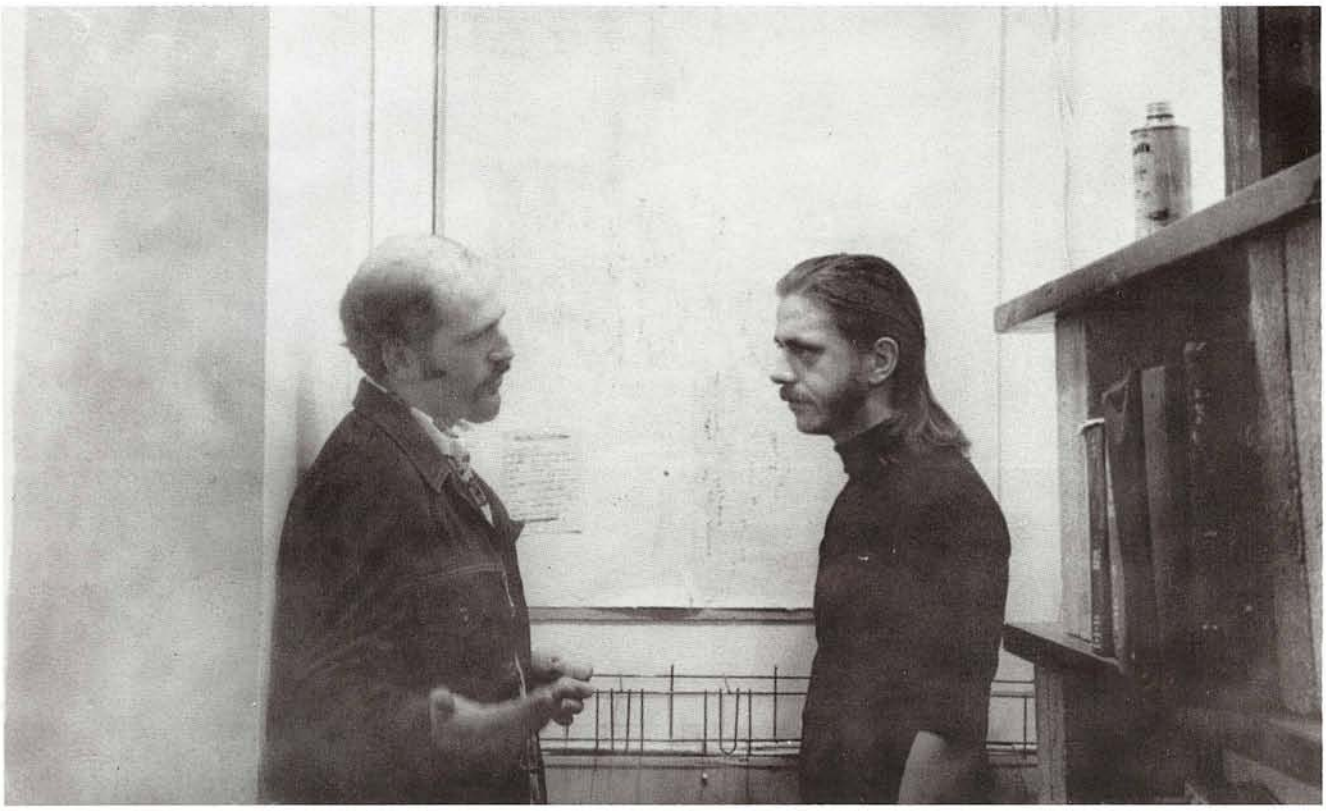

Service Center worker Marc Kaplan reviews arson map of the northside with community resident Jackie Collins.

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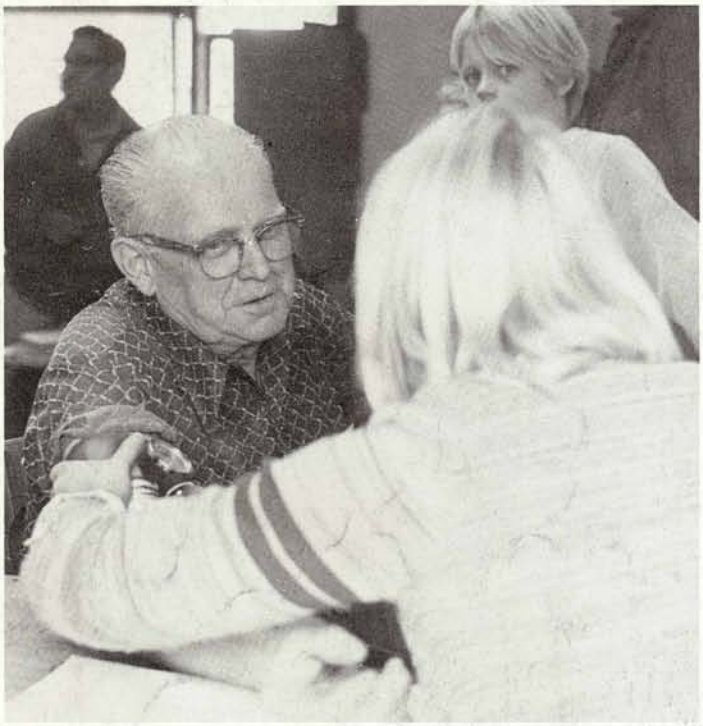

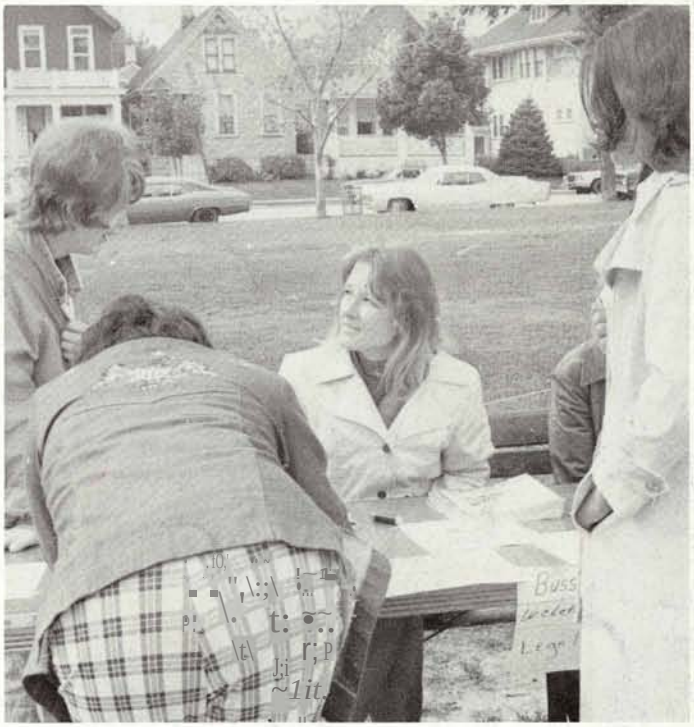

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